BATMAN
No.19

OCT...NOV.
TEN CENTS

A SUPERMAN DC PUBLICATION

BATMAN

FOUR BIG
BATMAN & ROBIN
ACTION STORIES

No. 1
"BATMAN MAKES A DEADLINE"

No. 2
"ATLANTIS GOES TO WAR"

No. 3
"CASE OF THE TIMID LION"

No. 4
"COLLECTOR OF MILLIONAIRES"

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A SUPERMAN DC PUBLICATION

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GREEN LANTERN
LEADING COMICS
WORLD'S FINEST COMICS
PICTURE STORIES FROM THE BIBLE*

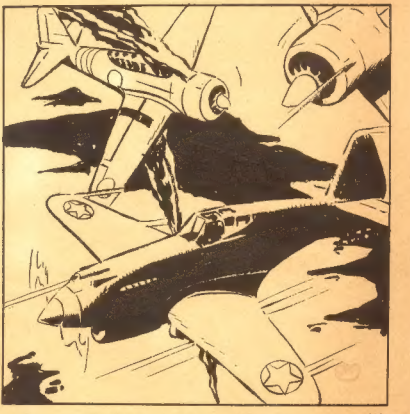
*Because the War Production Board has ordered all publishers to use 10% less paper than in 1942, MORE FUN and ADVENTURE will be published bi-monthly; ALL-FLASH, ALL-STAR COMICS, WONDER WOMAN and MUTT & JEFF will become quarterlies; ALL-AMERICAN COMICS will be published only eight times and PICTURE STORIES FROM THE BIBLE only twice in 1943.

GOOD BOOKS WORTH READING

reviewed by JOSETTE FRANK,
Director of Children's Reading,
CHILD STUDY ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

America's Fighting Planes In Action

By Reed Kinert



You may think you know something about planes, but you'll be surprised at all you will find out about them in this book. Here are about seventy different planes, with a full page action picture of each, and just the things about them that you want most to know: their construction and design, speed, fighting equipment and what they can do to the enemy in the air, at sea and on the ground.

Did you know, for instance, that the Lightning Lockheed P-38 easily outclimbs the Jap Zero and is much faster in level flight? Did you know that the Commando Curtis C-46 is the largest twin-engine transport plane in the world? What do you know about our "Watchdogs of the Navy?—the Blimps that patrol the sea lanes?

This book makes clear the different uses and differences in construction of bombers, fighters, interceptors, training planes—in fact every type of plane now being used by the U. S. Army and Navy to win this war.

If planes are your special interest, ask your librarian for this new book.

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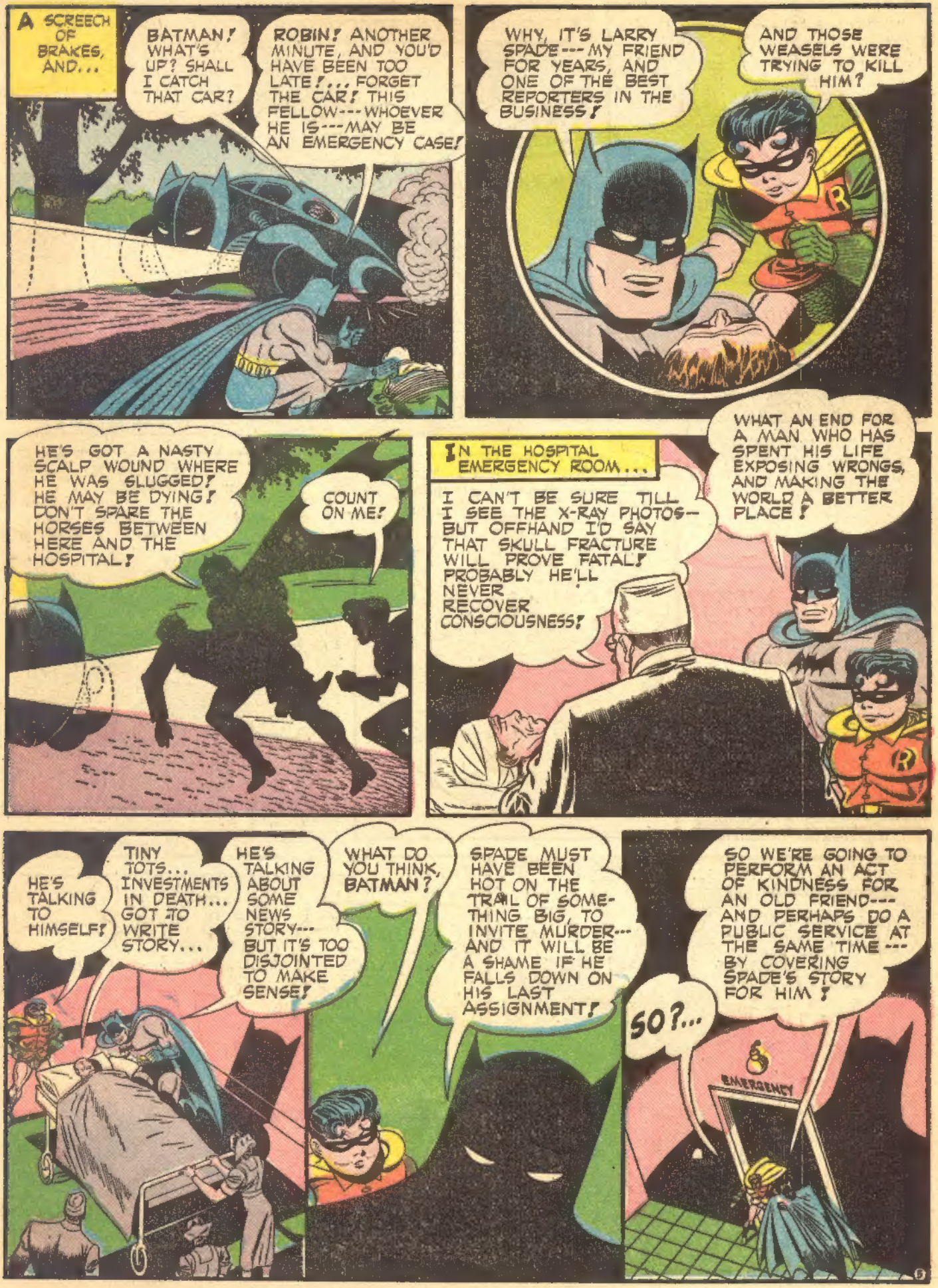
BATMAN
WITH
ROBIN
REG. U.S. PAT. OFF.
BOB KANE
Gotham City Graphic
EXTRA
GOTHAM CITY'S LEADING NEWSPAPER
PRICE 3 CENTS
VOL. 75.. NO. 147
REPORTER EXPOSES VAST DEATH RING!
Biggest Sc
Gang Shoot
Citizens ar
THRILLING
AND KILLER
WERE FOUND
HEADLINES TELL THRILLING STORIES---BUT MANY A STORY BEHIND THE HEADLINES IS FAR MORE DRAMATIC! HERE IS ONE--- THE STRANGE STORY OF LARRY SPADE, VETERAN REPORTER, WHO PLANS TO END HIS COLORFUL CAREER WITH THE BIGGEST SCOOP OF ALL--- AND FINDS IT IN THE MIDST OF DEADLY PERILS THAT WOULD STOP A LESS DETERMINED MAN! AND WHEN HEARTLESS KILLERS STRIKE TO SILENCE HIM, THOSE ARCH-FOES OF EVIL, THE BATMAN AND ROBIN, ERUPT INTO SPECTACULAR ACTION AGAINST A BACKGROUND OF CHATTERING LINOTYPES AND THUNDERING PRESSES AS---
"BATMAN MAKES A DEADLINE!"

IN THE OFFICE OF THE MANAGING EDITOR OF THE GOTHAM CITY GRAPHIC...
SOUNDS LIKE A WHALE OF A STORY, SLADE--- AND A DANGEROUS ONE! WHY DON'T YOU GIVE ME WHAT FACTS YOU HAVE ALREADY DUG UP--- JUST IN CASE?
CHIEF, I'VE ALWAYS BEEN A LONE WOLF, AND THIS IS THE LAST STORY I'LL EVER COVER! THE DOCTORS SAY MY HEALTH IS BAD, AND I MUST QUIT WORK IMMEDIATELY!
BUT I'M GOING TO SIGN OFF IN A BLAZE OF GLORY! I'M GOING TO BRING IN THIS SCOOP AND WRITE IT FOR YOUR FINAL MORNING EDITION--- ALONE!
I KNOW HOW YOU FEEL, LARRY! I'M AN OLD-TIME REPORTER, MYSELF! BUT FOR YOUR OWN SAKE, BE CAREFUL!
THEY SAY REPORTERS ARE CYNICS--- BUT I'VE SEEN ENOUGH OF LIFE TO BELIEVE IN FATE, AND I HAVE A FEELING THAT NOTHING FATAL CAN HAPPEN TO ME TILL THIS YARN IS IN PRINT!
ONE MORE STATEMENT FROM SOMEBODY NOT AFRAID TO RISK HIS LIFE TO TELL THE TRUTH--- AND THE GRAPHIC WILL SEND THE ROTTENEST RACKETEER EVER BORN TO PRISON FOR THE REST OF HIS LIFE!
BUT THE VETERAN NEWSHAWK DOES NOT NOTICE SINISTER FIGURES SLINKING TOWARD HIM...
THERE HE IS!
NO SLIPS, NOW!
GRAPHI
THE NEXT INSTANT...
GOT HIM!
THIS'LL SOOTHE HIS NOIVES!
WHA--?
UGH!...
LARRY SPADE BELIEVES IN FATE... AND WHO CAN SAY THAT FATE HAS NOT LED PLAYBOY BRUCE WAYNE INTO THIS PARTICULAR STREET AT THIS PARTICULAR TIME?
THEY'RE KIDNAPING THAT FELLOW! THIS LOOKS LIKE BUSINESS FOR THE BATMAN!
2

IN A SHADOWED AREAWAY, A SWIFT TRANSFORMATION TAKES PLACE...
IF IT ISN'T ONE THING, IT'S ANOTHER --- AND IF IT WASN'T THAT WAY, I'D BE BORED!
AND A BORROWED VEHICLE SPEEDS THE BATMAN TOWARD A NEW DATE WITH DANGER...
I NEED THIS WORSE THAN THE GRAPHIC DOES RIGHT NOW! I'LL RETURN IT UNDAMAGED OR BUY A NEW ONE LATER!
GRAPHIC NEWSPIX SERVICE
FROM THE CRIME-SMASHER'S UNIQUE BELT RADIO, A CALL CRACKLES THROUGH THE ETHER FOR ROBIN, HIS YOUNG PARTNER IN PERIL...
ROBIN! BATMAN CALLING ROBIN!
FOLLOW RADIO BEAM IN BATMOBILE WITH ALL POSSIBLE SPEED!...
BEYOND THE OUTSKIRTS OF THE CITY...
THEY'RE STOPPING --- WHICH MEANS I'D BETTER STOP THIS NOISEMAKER AND TRY A QUIETER APPROACH!
MIGHTY MUSCLES HURL THE BATMAN THROUGH LEAFY BRANCHES...
IF DARWIN, THE MAN WHO THOUGHT MEN AND MONKEYS CAME FROM A COMMON ANCESTOR, COULD ONLY SEE ME NOW!
JOURNEY'S END FOR THE GANGSTERS' PASSENGER...
THIS IS AS GOOD A PLACE TO DITCH HIM AS ANY!
THE BOSS AIN'T PARTICULAR WHERE HE DIES --- JUST SO HE DOES!
A NERVELESS HAND PREPARES TO COMMIT THE DARKEST DEED OF ALL...
HE'LL NEVER TELL THE WORLD ABOUT OUR RACKET!
WE'LL DO THE SAME TO ANYBODY WHO TRIES TO KEEP US FROM MAKING ALL THEM MILLIONS!
8

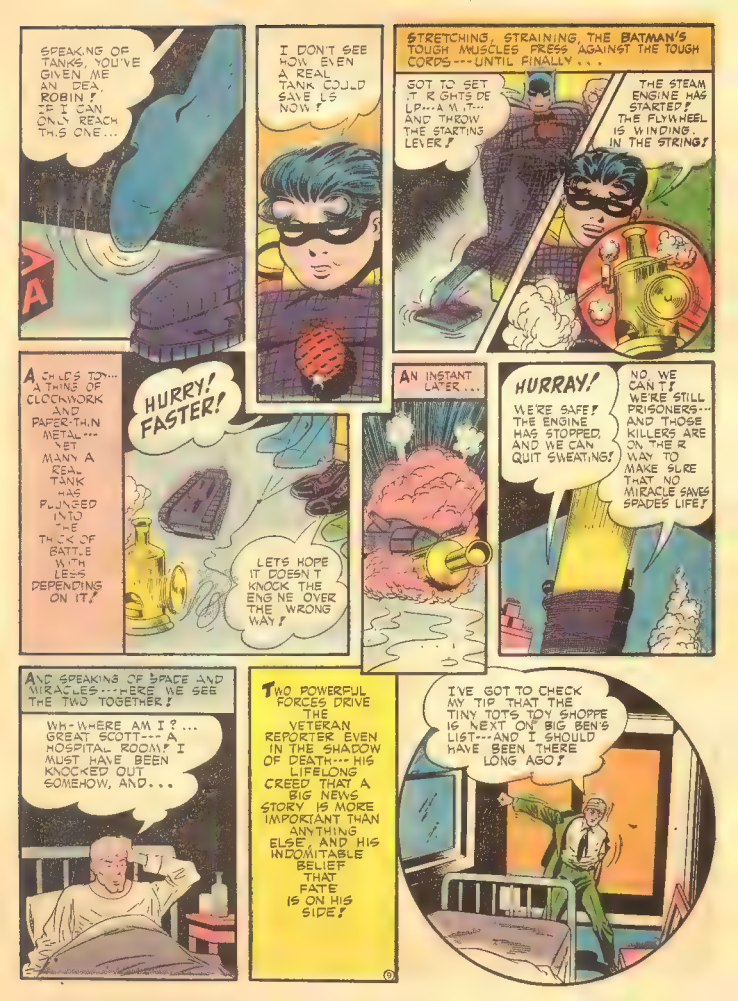
SUDDENLY...
HOLD THAT TRIGGER!
THE BATMAN!
HUH?
IF IT ISN'T SKYLARK SKELLY! LET'S HEAR YOU SING!
EEEE!
AND LEGS LASCOMB! YOUR LEGS SEEM TO BE FOLDING UP UNDER YOU!
I'LL GIVE YOU LEAD POISONIN', BATMAN!
I'LL MAKE YOUR TEETH RATTLE, RATTLER! I'LL--- OOPS!
LEGS! SKYLARK! GRAB HIM!
HE AIN'T GOT A CHANCE!
TOO BAD I LEFT MY BRASS KNUCKLES HOME!
IT WILL TAKE MORE THAN KNUCKLES TO STOP ME!
DESPITE HIS DEFIANCE, THE BATMAN'S STRENGTH EBBS BENEATH A RAIN OF BRUTAL BLOWS...
WE'LL GET A BONUS FOR RUBBIN' OUT THE BATMAN!
YOU'RE OVERDUE FOR A BONUS--- PAYABLE IN THE EXECUTION CHAMBER AT THE BIG HOUSE!
ABRUPTLY, THE ROAR OF A HIGH-POWERED MOTOR, ACCOMPANIED BY A BLAZE OF LIGHTS, DULLS THE KILLERS' ENTHUSIASM...
A CAR! I DON'T LIKE IT!
MAYBE IT'S THE COPS! WE BETTER LAM!
THAT WILL BE ROBIN--- THANK GOODNESS!
4


A SCREECH OF BRAKES, AND...
BATMAN! WHAT'S UP? SHALL I CATCH THAT CAR?
ROBIN! ANOTHER MINUTE, AND YOU'D HAVE BEEN TOO LATE!... FORGET THE CAR! THIS FELLOW---WHOEVER HE IS---MAY BE AN EMERGENCY CASE!
WHY, IT'S LARRY SPADE---MY FRIEND FOR YEARS, AND ONE OF THE BEST REPORTERS IN THE BUSINESS!
AND THOSE WEASELS WERE TRYING TO KILL HIM?
HE'S GOT A NASTY SCALP WOUND WHERE HE WAS SLUGGED! HE MAY BE DYING! DON'T SPARE THE HORSES BETWEEN HERE AND THE HOSPITAL!
COUNT ON ME!
IN THE HOSPITAL EMERGENCY ROOM...
I CAN'T BE SURE TILL I SEE THE X-RAY PHOTOS--BUT OFFHAND I'D SAY THAT SKULL FRACTURE WILL PROVE FATAL! PROBABLY HE'LL NEVER RECOVER CONSCIOUSNESS!
WHAT AN END FOR A MAN WHO HAS SPENT HIS LIFE EXPOSING WRONGS, AND MAKING THE WORLD A BETTER PLACE!
HE'S TALKING TO HIMSELF!
TINY TOTS... INVESTMENTS IN DEATH... GOT TO WRITE STORY...
HE'S TALKING ABOUT SOME NEWS STORY--- BUT IT'S TOO DISJOINTED TO MAKE SENSE!
WHAT DO YOU THINK, BATMAN?
SPADE MUST HAVE BEEN HOT ON THE TRAIL OF SOMETHING BIG, TO INVITE MURDER--- AND IT WILL BE A SHAME IF HE FALLS DOWN ON HIS LAST ASSIGNMENT!
SO?...
SO WE'RE GOING TO PERFORM AN ACT OF KINDNESS FOR AN OLD FRIEND--- AND PERHAPS DO A PUBLIC SERVICE AT THE SAME TIME--- BY COVERING SPADE'S STORY FOR HIM!
EMERGENCY

HERE WE ARE-- "TINY TOTS TOY SHOPPE!" IT'S AS NEAR AS WE CAN COME IN THE PHONE BOOK TO WHAT SPADE WAS MUMBLING ABOUT!
TOYS DON'T SOUND DEADLY--- BUT YOU NEVER CAN TELL!
TELEPHONE DIRECTORY
LATER, IN THE TINY TOTS TOY SHOPPE...
YOU'RE THE PROPRIETOR, HUH?
WHY, YES, GENTLEMEN! I'M ABOUT TO CLOSE UP--- BUT IF I CAN DO SOMETHING FOR YOU FIRST...
TOY SHOP
DOLL DEPT.
YOU CAN DO SOMETHING FOR US, ALL RIGHT--- UNLESS YOU WANT US TO HANG THIS HAND-GRENADE AROUND YOUR NECK AND BLOW YOU ALL OVER THE JOINT!
NO! DON'T DO THAT! I'LL DO ANYTHING YOU SAY!
PUT YOUR AUTOGRAPH ON THE DOTTED LINE! DON'T BOTHER READING IT---AND DON'T EVER TELL ANYBODY WE WERE HERE UNLESS YOU WANT US TO COME BACK!
YOU MAY RELY ON MY DISCRETION!
LOOK, BIG BEN--- THE BATMAN AND ROBIN!
HUH?
OH...THEM DOLLS!
THEY'RE VERY POPULAR WITH THE CHILDREN!
BEHIND THE TENT FLAPS...
WELL, THEY AIN'T POPULAR WITH ME--- AND I ONLY WISH I HAD THE ORIGINALS HERE TO PROVE IT!
DID YOU SEE THAT, BATMAN?
I NOT ONLY SAW--- I HEARD!
THE NEXT INSTANT...
BIG BEN ROLLING--- YOUR WISH IS COMING TRUE!
ISN'T IT LUCKY WE HAPPENED TO DROP IN WHILE YOU WERE BUSY COLLECTING AUTOGRAPHS?
WHA---?
THEY'RE ALIVE!

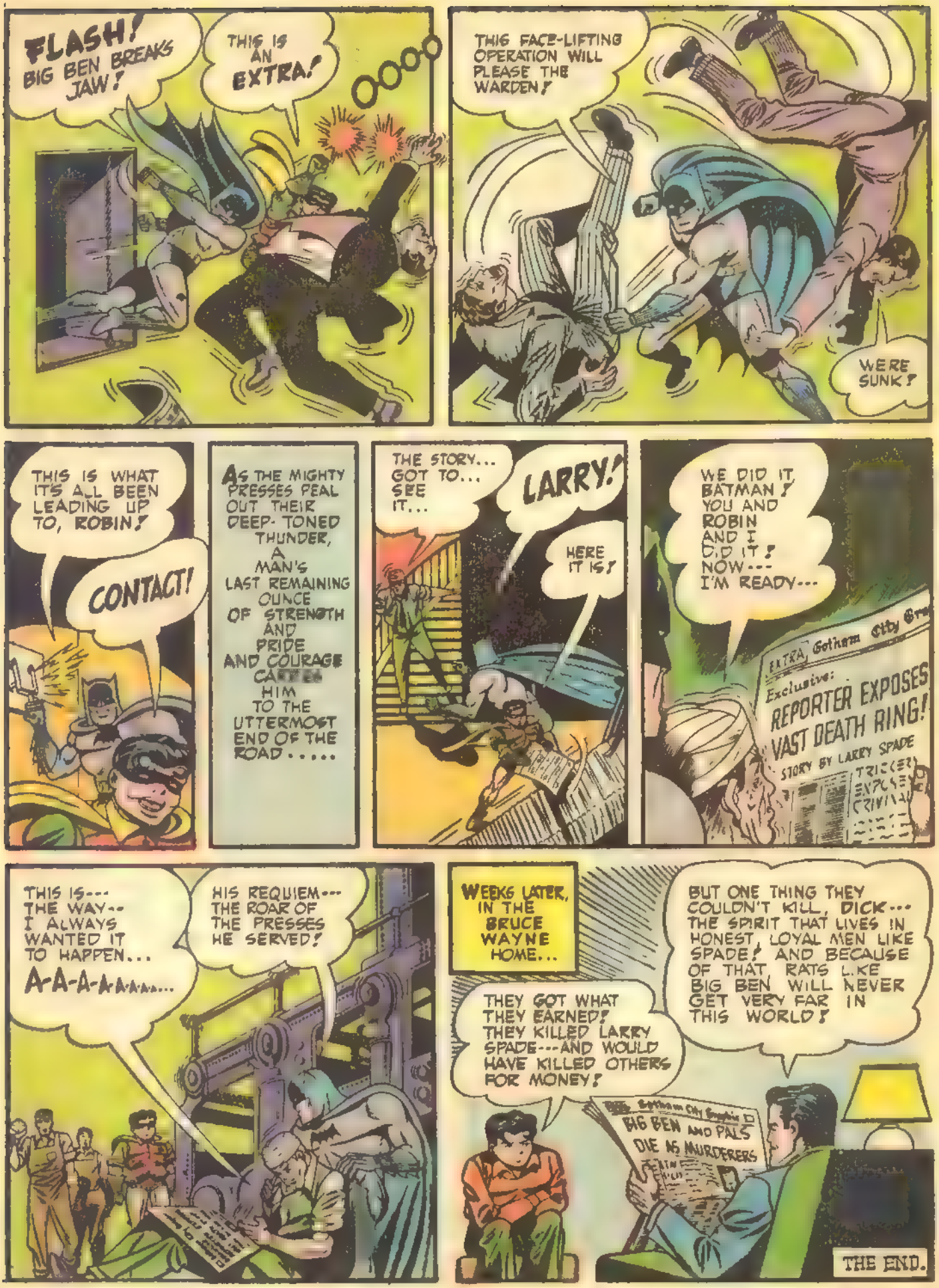
THIS'LL LOOK CUTE AROUND YOUR NECK, BATMAN!
NO DOUBT!
... BUT I'D RATHER TRY IT ON YOU FIRST!
HELP
FD
KIDS WHO PLAY COPS AND ROBBERS SOMETIMES GET SHOT!
I'M GLAD YOU SAID "SOMETIMES!"
LOOK OUT, ROBIN!
CLANG
BANG
HUH?... LOOKS LIKE I'M GETTING A LIFT!
CLANG
CLANG
OUTDOOR GAMES
MOVE LIVELY, CHUMS!
CRASH
CLANG A LANG
WHEW! WHAT A RIDE!
BEST RECKLESS DRIVING I EVER SAW, FELLA!
THEY WON'T FEEL SO FUNNY IN A MINUTE!
HEY--- WHAT'S THIS?
A TENNIS NET TO SAVE OUR RACKET! HAW, HAW--- WHAT A JOKE!
GET IN THERE WITH YOUR PALS, BRAT!

IN A MOMENT THE BATMAN AND ROBIN ARE THE HELPLESS VICTIMS OF A GRIMMER GAME THAN EVER WAS PLAYED ON A TENNIS COURT...
A SMART TRICK, RATS--- BUT HOW LONG DO YOU THINK THIS WILL HOLD US?
LONG ENOUGH!
AFTER THESE GRENADES EXPLODE, THERE WON'T BE ANYTHING LEFT TO HOLD! TOO BAD I CAN'T COLLECT INSURANCE ON THE BATMAN AND ROBIN, TOO!
INSURANCE? ... SO THAT'S YOUR RACKET! THAT'S WHAT SPADE MEANT BY "INVESTMENTS IN DEATH!"
IT'S A NATURAL! I GET THE NAMES OF MEN WITH BIG INSURANCE POLICIES, THEN MAKE 'EM SIGN THE BENEFITS OVER TO ME WITHOUT KNOWING WHAT THEY'RE DOING! PRETTY SOON, THEY HAVE FATAL ACCIDENTS--- AND I COLLECT!
OF ALL THE ROTTEN CROOKS IN THE WORLD, YOU PROBABLY RANK NEAR THE TOP---AND I MEAN RANK!
OH, I'M NOT ALL BAD! IN MY HEART I'M JUST A KID! I LIKE TO PLAY WITH TOYS--- LIKE THIS MODEL STEAM ENGINE!
STEAM ENGINE
MODEL A
ALL VERY SCIENTIFIC! THE BOILER GETS HOT, THE STEAM TURNS THE FLY WHEEL, THE WHEEL TIGHTENS THE STRING AND PULLS THE PINS FROM THE GRENADES! DO YOU FOLLOW ME?
I'M AWAY AHEAD OF YOU, YOU GRINNING FIEND!
I'D LIKE TO STAY FOR THE BLOWOUT, BUT I MUST HURRY TO CHECK THE HOSPITALS! I'M ANXIOUS ABOUT THE HEALTH OF A FRIEND OF MINE--- NAMED SPADE!
IF I COULD BREAK THESE ROPES, I'D PUT YOU IN THE NEAREST, HOSPITAL IN A HURRY!
A TINY BLUE FLAME, PRELUDE TO FLAMING ANNIHILATION, BURNS BRIGHTLY...
WHEE
WHEE
WHEE
AS IF KILLING ME WASN'T BAD ENOUGH, THOSE WEASELS ARE GOING TO COLLECT THE INSURANCE THAT SHOULD GO TO MY WIFE AND CHILDREN!
THE WHISTLE'S BLOWING! THAT MEANS THE WATER IS HEATING IN THE TANK!
HMM--
9


SPEAKING OF TANKS, YOU'VE GIVEN ME AN IDEA, ROBIN! IF I CAN ONLY REACH THIS ONE...
I DON'T SEE HOW EVEN A REAL TANK COULD SAVE US NOW!
STRETCHING, STRAINING, THE BATMAN'S TOUGH MUSCLES PRESS AGAINST THE TOUGH CORDS---UNTIL FINALLY...
GOT TO SET IT RIGHT SIDE UP...AM. IT... AND THROW THE STARTING LEVER!
THE STEAM ENGINE HAS STARTED! THE FLYWHEEL IS WINDING IN THE STRING!
A CHILD'S TOY... A THING OF CLOCKWORK AND PAPER-THIN METAL---YET MANY A REAL TANK HAS PLUNGED INTO THE THICK OF BATTLE WITH LESS DEPENDING ON IT!
HURRY! FASTER!
LETS HOPE IT DOESN'T KNOCK THE ENGINE OVER THE WRONG WAY!
AN INSTANT LATER...
HURRAY!
WE'RE SAFE! THE ENGINE HAS STOPPED, AND WE CAN QUIT SWEATING!
NO, WE CAN'T! WE'RE STILL PRISONERS... AND THOSE KILLERS ARE ON THE WAY TO MAKE SURE THAT NO MIRACLE SAVES SPADES LIFE!
AND SPEAKING OF SPACE AND MIRACLES---HERE WE SEE THE TWO TOGETHER!
WH-WHERE AM I?... GREAT SCOTT---A HOSPITAL ROOM! I MUST HAVE BEEN KNOCKED OUT SOMEHOW, AND...
TWO POWERFUL FORCES DRIVE THE VETERAN REPORTER EVEN IN THE SHADOW OF DEATH---HIS LIFELONG CREED THAT A BIG NEWS STORY IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN ANYTHING ELSE, AND HIS INDOMITABLE BELIEF THAT FATE IS ON HIS SIDE!
I'VE GOT TO CHECK MY TIP THAT THE TINY TOTS TOY SHOPPE IS NEXT ON BIG BEN'S LIST---AND I SHOULD HAVE BEEN THERE LONG AGO!

SORT OF ROCKY··· BUT I CAN'T QUIT! IT'S TOO LATE TO GO TO THAT TOY STORE! THE DEADLINE WON'T WAIT··· NOT EVEN FOR ME! I'LL HAVE TO USE THE EVIDENCE I ALREADY HAVE!
AS THE DEADLINE NEARS IN THE CITY ROOM OF THE GRAPHIC...
JUMPIN' GRASSHOPPERS·· LOOK AT SPADE! I NEVER SAW HIM THIS WAY BEFORE!
I GUESS, WHEN A FELLOW'S QUITTING THE GAME AFTER THIRTY YEARS, HE'S GOT A RIGHT TO CELEBRATE!
DEATH IS VERY NEAR··· BUT STRONGER EVEN THAN DEATH IS THE WILL OF THIS MAN, TO WHOM NEWS MEANS MORE THAN LIFE!
YOU LOOK ALL IN, LARRY! HOW ABOUT THAT BIG YARN THE CHIEF MENTIONED?
RIP OPEN THE FRONT PAGE! MY STORY WILL BEAT THE DEADLINE TO YOUR DESK··· IF YOU QUIT PESTERING ME!
MEANWHILE, BIG BEN BOLLING IS ALSO CONCERNED WITH NEWS··· BAD NEWS!
HE WAS AT THE GENERAL HOSPITAL, BUT HE'S GONE! HE WALKED OUT WHILE NOBODY WAS LOOKING!
WE KNOW WHERE TO FIND HIM! WHAT ARE WE WAITING FOR?
TELEPHONE
THIS IS DANGEROUS ··· BUT IF HE PRINTS THAT STORY, IT WILL BE MORE DANGEROUS FOR ALL OF US!
IT'LL MEAN THE HOT SEAT! WHATTA WE GOT TO LOSE?
GRAPHIC FLFG.
PRESENTLY...
IT'S ALL HERE··· BUT YOU'LL HAVE TO WRITE··· MY OBITUARY··· YOURSELF!
GREAT CAESAR! LARRY··· YOU'RE HURT! WHY, I THOUGHT...
THE KILLERS STRIKE...
WE'RE GOING TO KILL THIS STORY··· AND THE SAME GOES FOR ANYBODY WHO SAYS NO!
WHA··! WHO ARE YOU?
DON'T-LET THEM! CALL THE COPS!
ABRUPTLY...
I FIGURED THIS IS WHERE SPADE WENT FROM THE HOSPITAL···AND SO DID THE RATS!
THE BATMAN··· OR HIS GHOST! GET H.M!
IF IT'S HIS GHOST, HOW CAN WE?
CITY ROOM

NO HAND-GRENADES, BIG BEN --- JUST MY HAND!
AND HERE'S MINE!
TAKE IT AWAY!
BOY! RUSH THIS TO THE COMPOSING ROOM WHILE I TAKE CARE OF SOME UNFINISHED BUSINESS!
RIGHT, CHIEF!
IF YOU WANT TO WASTE BULLETS, IT'S NO SKIN OFF MY KNUCKLES --- OR IS IT?
LET'S GO! THERE'S NOTHING WE CAN DO HERE!
AS LINOTYPE MACHINES CLATTER BUSILY SETTING UP SPADE'S STORY IN HARD, PITILESS TYPE...
OH, OH... THEY'RE HARD TO DISCOURAGE!
STOP THESE MACHINES! STOP EVERYTHING!
WHAT'S HAPPENING?
WHILE WE'RE ABOUT IT, MAYBE WE'D BETTER STOP YOU!
THEY GOT US SURROUNDED! LET'S SCRAM!
THE TYPE IS SET... THE PAGE FORM STEREOTYPED... AND THE PLATE FOR THE NEW FIRST PAGE STARTS DOWN TO THE PRESSROOM...
THAT'S THAT!
DO YOU THINK WE SCARED THOSE RATS OFF FOR GOOD, BATMAN?
I HOPE NOT! I DON'T WANT TO SPEND THE REST OF THE NIGHT HUNTING THEM, AFTER THE PAPER IS PRINTED!
IN THE PRESSROOM... A LAST DESPERATE ATTEMPT IS PREPARED...
HERE'S THE PLATES WITH THE STORY! WE'LL SMASH 'EM AND WRECK THE PRESSES!
ONE MOVE AN' YA GET IT!


FLASH! BIG BEN BREAKS JAW!
THIS IS AN EXTRA!
OOOO
THIS FACE-LIFTING OPERATION WILL PLEASE THE WARDEN!
WE'RE SUNK!
THIS IS WHAT IT'S ALL BEEN LEADING UP TO, ROBIN!
CONTACT!
AS THE MIGHTY PRESSES PEAL OUT THEIR DEEP-TONED THUNDER, A MAN'S LAST REMAINING OUNCE OF STRENGTH AND PRIDE AND COURAGE CARRIES HIM TO THE UTTERMOST END OF THE ROAD.....
THE STORY... GOT TO... SEE IT...
LARRY!
HERE IT IS!
WE DID IT, BATMAN! YOU AND ROBIN AND I DID IT! NOW--- I'M READY---
EXTRA Gotham City
Exclusive:
REPORTER EXPOSES VAST DEATH RING!
STORY BY LARRY SPADE
THIS IS--- THE WAY-- I ALWAYS WANTED IT TO HAPPEN...
A-A-A-A-A-A-A-A-A-A...
HIS REQUIEM--- THE ROAR OF THE PRESSES HE SERVED!
WEEKS LATER, IN THE BRUCE WAYNE HOME...
THEY GOT WHAT THEY EARNED! THEY KILLED LARRY SPADE---AND WOULD HAVE KILLED OTHERS FOR MONEY!
BUT ONE THING THEY COULDN'T KILL, DICK--- THE SPIRIT THAT LIVES IN HONEST, LOYAL MEN LIKE SPADE! AND BECAUSE OF THAT, RATS LIKE BIG BEN WILL NEVER GET VERY FAR IN THIS WORLD!
Gotham City Graphic
BIG BEN AND PALS DIE AS MURDERERS
THE END.

LIKE A P-38 – GIVE YOURSELF A

POWER START

"Look, Fritz! Dose Americans are capturing our storm troopers mit free samples Wheaties again!"

EVERY MORNING!

HERE'S the "food-power" breakfast treat that'll help you get up and go in champion style tomorrow morning! Reach for the Wheaties and enjoy a "Breakfast of Champions" with lots of milk and fruit.

Just like a P-38 needs super-fuel to rule the air, *you* need plenty of food energy to help you keep going. So get that food-energy and *all* the well known vital nourishment of good whole wheat in Wheaties —"Breakfast of Champions."

Yes, here's the new breakfast favorite you've been looking for. Crisp-toasted flakes with a special goodness you can't resist – a flavor that's got 'em all beat for solid enjoyment. Probably more great athletes in many sports eat Wheaties for breakfast than any other dish of the kind. Why don't you eat like a champion, too? Get *your* "power start" tomorrow with a "Breakfast of Champions!"

Hey, look! Special offer good only while our limited supplies last. Get handsome mechanical pencil shaped like big league baseball bat—streamline curved to fit your fingers. Send 10c and one Wheaties box top to General Mills, Inc. Dept. 314, Minneapolis, Minn. And send *today!*

"Wheaties" and "Breakfast of Champions" are registered trade marks of General Mills, Inc.

"Breakfast of Champions"

WITH MILK AND FRUIT

A product of GENERAL MILLS, INC.

BATMAN
ROBIN
-THE BOY WONDER-
ATLANTIS--- MYSTERIOUS LAND OF LEGEND--- BAFFLING ENIGMA WHICH HAS ENTHRALLED THE FANCY OF SCIENTISTS AND HISTORIANS, ANCIENT AND MODERN! WHAT BECAME OF ITS PEOPLE, ITS CULTURE, ITS IDEALS, WHEN EARTHQUAKE AND TIDAL WAVE BURIED IT DEEP IN THE OCEAN THOUSANDS OF YEARS AGO?
NO ONE REALLY KNOWS, SAY THE SCHOLARS---
BUT THE MIGHTY BATMAN AND HIS DAREDEVIL COMRADE ROBIN KNOW--- FOR THE TRAIL OF SKULKING NAZI U-BOATS LEADS THEM INTO THEIR MOST FANTASTIC ADVENTURE OF ALL DEEP IN THE ROLLING SEA! TREACHERY AND PERIL... BATTLES AND HARBREADTH ESCAPES... GLAMOR AND ROMANCE... ALL THESE HAVE THEIR PART IN THE AMAZING STORY AS---"ATLANTIS GOES TO WAR!"
STATION
A MERCILESS KILLER OF THE DEEP STALKS HIS DEFENSELESS PREY...
NUMBER ONE TORPEDO--- FIRE!
JA, MEIN CAPTAIN!
BOB KANE

AND THE CALM OF THE NIGHT IS SHATTERED BY THE FLAME AND THUNDER OF A TERRIFIC EXPLOSION...
ABOARD THE STRICKEN AMERICAN TANKER, A WOUNDED HERO STICKS GRIMLY AT HIS POST...
CALLING U.S. COAST GUARD! TANKER CRYSTAL BELLE TORPEDOED EIGHTY MILES EAST OF SAVANNAH! WE'RE SINKING FAST...
CRACKLING THROUGH THE ETHER, THE RADIO CALL IS AT ONCE A WARNING AND A FAREWELL...
ALL LIFEBOATS SMASHED... SUB STANDING BY... THIS LOOKS LIKE THE FINISH FOR ALL OF US!
LANDBASED PLANES ROAR INTO THE BLACKNESS ON THE SLIM CHANCE OF SIGHTING THE DEADLY U-BOAT IN THE VAST EXPANSE OF OCEAN...
IF YOU SIGHT THE SHIP BEFORE SHE SINKS, DROP YOUR RUBBER LIFEBOAT... IT MIGHT SAVE SOME OF THOSE POOR DEVILS!
RIGHT, MAJOR!!
OUR RADIO OPERATOR REPORTS THAT THE SHIP IS CALLING FOR HELP, SIR!
LET THEM CALL! NO ONE WILL EVER FIND THEM--- OR US!
MEANWHILE, CAPTAIN KURT FRITZL, IN THE FINEST TRADITION OF NAZI WARFARE, AMUSES HIMSELF BY SHELLING HIS HELPLESS VICTIM...
NOT IN TEN MILLION YEARS COULD AMERICAN PLANES OR SHIPS FIND THE SECRET BASE OF OUR UNDERSEA FLEET! SOMETIMES I MYSELF WONDER IF IT IS NOT ALL A DREAM!
LATER, AS THE KILLER CRAFT GLIDES THROUGH THE INKY DEPTHS THAT ARE THE COMMON GRAVE OF BRAVE MERCHANT SEA MEN...
WHAT COURSE, HERR CAPTAIN?
WE HAVE DONE A GOOD NIGHT'S WORK FOR DER FUEHRER--- LET US RETURN TO OUR HOME PORT--- TO ATLANTIS!
WHAT'S THIS? ATLANTIS--- THE FABULOUS LAND WHERE THE ANCIENTS BELIEVED A GREAT CIVILIZATION FLOURISHED BETWEEN THE CONTINENTS OF EUROPE AND AMERICA, UNTIL THE SEA SWALLOWED IT!
DID SUCH A LAND EVER EXIST? CAN IT POSSIBLY STILL EXIST, SOMEWHERE BENEATH THE RESTLESS WAVES?
OH, WELL--- PERHAPS THE NAZI U-BOAT COMMANDER WAS SPEAKING IN JEST...
... PERHAPS.

A BAFFLING MYSTERY FACES THE MEN RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SAFETY OF A NATION AT WAR...

NEW YORK COMET

SECRET SUB BASE ELUDES SEARCHERS

Navy Combs Caribbean without Success

AND BECAUSE HUMAN LIVES AND FREEDOM ARE AT STAKE BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS YOUNG WARD DICK GRAYSON ARE MORE THAN INTERESTED...

THE NAVY DEPARTMENT REPORTS THE LOSS OF FOUR MORE MERCHANT VESSELS TO THE SUBMARINE PACK...

WHY DOESN'T THE NAVY MOP UP THOSE SUBS BRUCE?

IT WILL, AS SOON AS THEIR BASE IS LOCATED--- AND OUR ABLEST AND BRAVEST MEN ARE RISKING THEIR LIVES DAY AND NIGHT TO FIND IT!

BUT IT'S A BIG OCEAN, DICK--- AND THE JOB IS A LOT TOUGHER THAN FINDING A NEEDLE IN A HAYSTACK!

COULDN'T THE BATMAN AND ROBIN HELP?

HMM... OUR PATROL PILOTS ARE THE BEST IN THE WORLD... STILL, THE BATPLANE COULD COVER A LOT OF TERRITORY...

LET'S TRY! WHO KNOWS--- WE MAY BE LUCKY ENOUGH TO STUMBLE ON EXACTLY WHAT THE OTHERS HAVE MISSED!

SO IT IS THAT TWO GRIM, CLOAKED FIGURES SLIP FROM THE BRUCE WAYNE HOME THAT NIGHT--- THE BATMAN AND ROBIN!

I'M SPOILING FOR ACTION!

WE'LL DO OUR BEST TO FIND SOME!

MOMENTS LATER, AN EERIE CRAFT STREAKS FROM AN UNDERGROUND HANGAR TO THE STARRY SKY--- THE BATPLANE!

OUT OVER THE BROAD ATLANTIC AND SOUTHWARD, HARDLY LESS SWIFT THAN A SHELL FROM A BIG GUN, WINGS THE SUPERCHARGED SHIP...

I GUESS I'VE SEEN THE OCEAN A THOUSAND TIMES BUT I NEVER REALIZED HOW BIG IT WAS!

THERE ARE FORTY-ONE MILLION SQUARE MILES OF ATLANTIC UNDER US!

AS DAWN BREAKS OVER THE TRACKLESS WASTE OF WATER...

BATMAN--- THERE'S A BOAT--- AND SOMEONE IN IT WAVING TO US!

DOWN WE GO! LOOKS AS IF WE'RE GOING TO SAVE ONE LIFE ANYWAY!

HASTILY-LOWERED PONTOONS SKIM THE WATER...
...AND A VETERAN SEA DOG HAS A NARROW ESCAPE FROM "DAVY JONES' LOCKER."
BLAST MY DEADLIGHTS! IS IT THE BATMAN I'M SEEIN', OR IS OLD BEN STUNSEL LOSIN' HIS WITS FROM THIRST AND HUNGER?
RIGHT THE FIRST TIME, BEN!
IT WAS BEGINNIN' TO LOOK LIKE MY LAST VOYAGE! NOT A BITE TO EAT NOR A DROP TO DRINK HAVE I HAD SINCE THE SNEAKIN' NAZIS SANK THE ANNA BOWER AND MACHINE-GUNNED ALL HANDS BUT ME!
WE HAVE FOOD AND WATER FOR YOU... AND MAYBE WE'LL GET THAT SUB BEFORE WE'RE FINISHED!
SUDDENLY, THE SURFACE OF THE SEA SHIFTS CONVULSIVELY...
WHA---? AN EXPLOSION UNDERWATER---OR MAYBE AN EARTHQUAKE!
A POWERFUL CURRENT SEIZES AND WHIRLS THE BATPLANE..
WHAT'S HAPPENING?
I DON'T KNOW--- BUT I HOPE IT DOESN'T LAST LONG!
LIKE A FLY CAUGHT IN A VACUUM CLEANER, THE TINY CRAFT IS DRAWN INTO THE DARK VORTEX ...
WE CAN'T TAKE OFF! THE CENTRIFUGAL FORCE IS TOO GREAT!
CHIN UP! MAYBE WE'LL COME THROUGH THIS YET!
FASTER, FASTER SPINS THE CURRENT, OPENING A CONE-SHAPED CRATER IN THE WATER.
A WHIRLPOOL! GIVE HER THE GUN, ROBIN! SEE IF THE ENGINE CAN PULL US OUT!
I'LL GIVE HER ALL THE HORSEPOWER SHE'S GOT!
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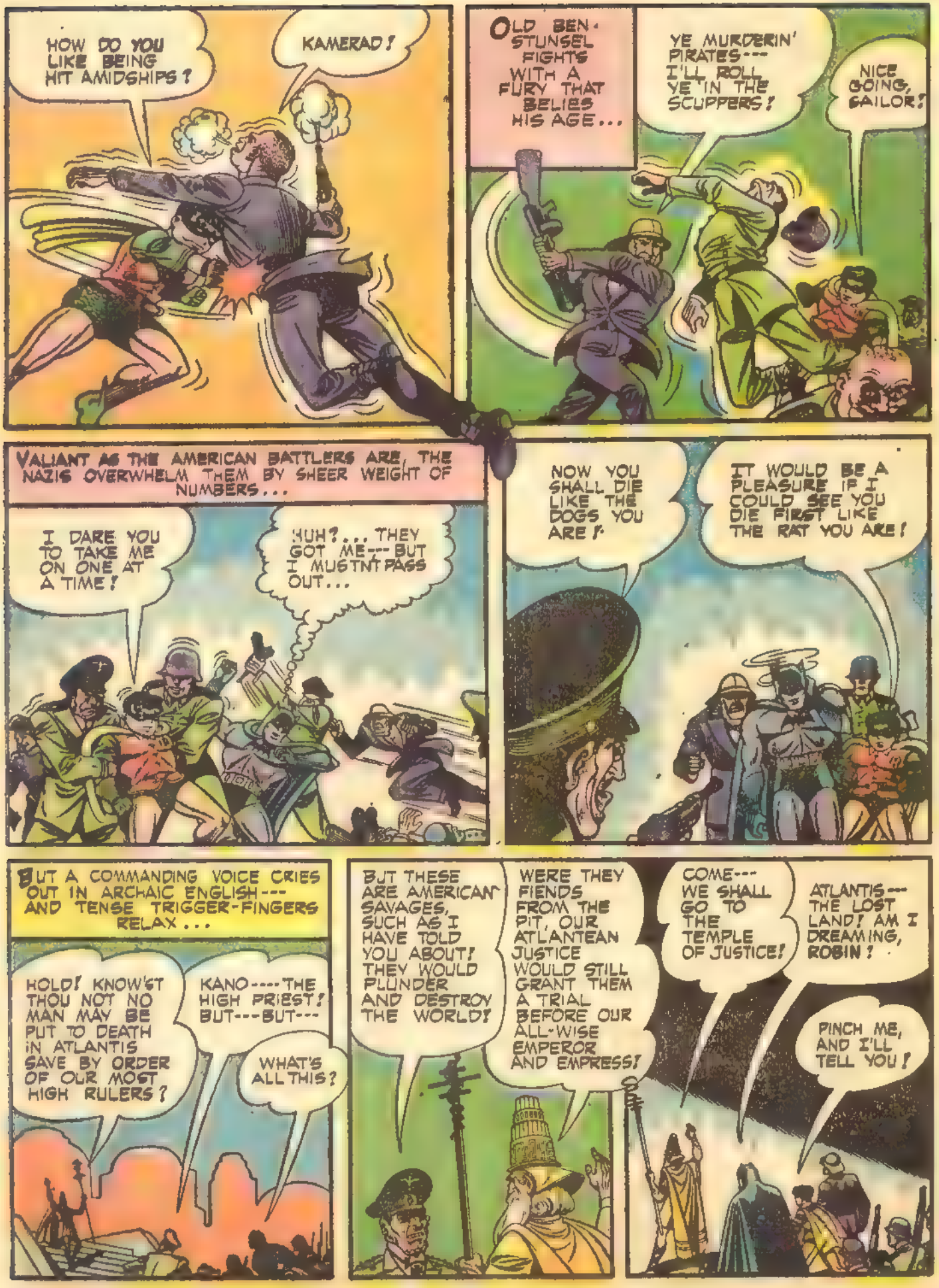
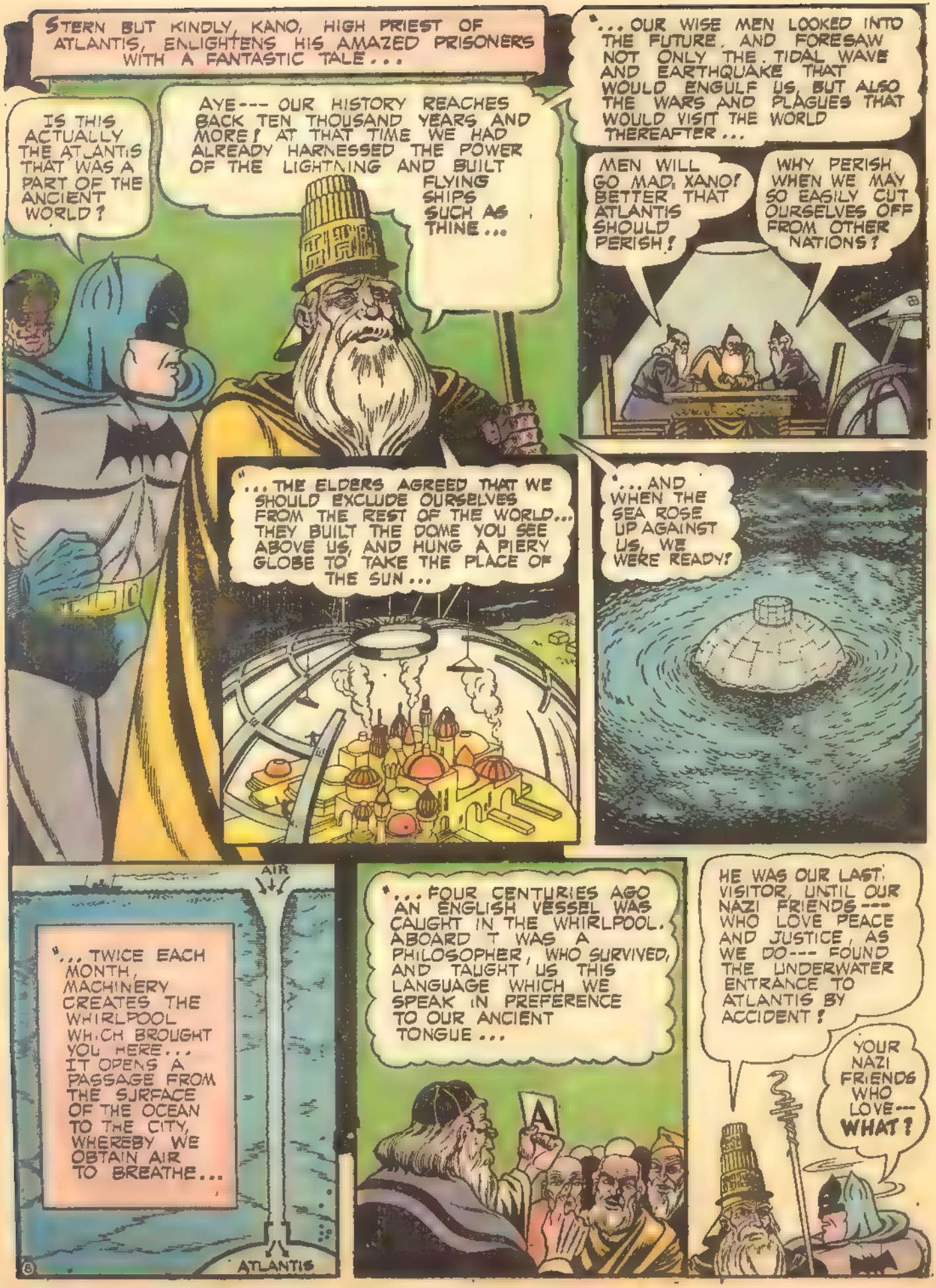
PLUNGING TOWARD THE OCEAN FLOOR, THE BATPLANE AND ITS PASSENGERS SEEM HOPELESSLY DOOMED...
THE WATER WILL CLOSE IN ON US ANY MINUTE... AND THEN...
BUT A SUDDEN BLAZE OF LIGHT BURSTS UPON THEM--- AND ABRUPTLY...
THAT LIGHT--- IT'S BLINDING ME! CAN WE HAVE FALLEN INTO A VOLCANO CRATER UNDER THE OCEAN?
BATMAN-- LOOK!
INCREDIBLY BEAUTIFUL IN THE RADIANCE OF THE HUGE FLAMING GLOBE, A GREAT CITY OF MARBLE AND METAL APPEARS BEFORE THE DAZZLED EYES OF THE ADVENTURERS...

ROBIN BRINGS THE BAT-WINGED PLANE UNDER CONTROL...
NICE GOING, FELLA... SET HER DOWN ON THAT SHEET OF WATER AHEAD!
A LONG GLIDE, AND THEY APPROACH AN ARTIFICIAL POOL--AND AN UNPLEASANT SURPRISE!
GERMAN SUBS! THIS MUST BE THEIR SECRET BASE!
NO WONDER OUR PATROLS COULDN'T FIND IT!
THE SWABS--- I'LL TEACH 'EM TO SCUTTLE MY SHIPMATES!
YOU'VE GOT THE SPIRIT OLD TIMER --- BUT THEY'VE GOT THE GUNS!
ADMIRAL VON BURITZ, COMMANDANT OF THE U-BOAT FLEET, IS NO MORE PLEASED TO SEE THE NEW ARRIVALS THAN THEY ARE TO SEE HIS VESSELS OF DESTRUCTION...
HIMMEL---THIS MUST BE THE BATMAN, THE MAD AMERICAN ADVENTURER WE HAVE HEARD ABOUT!
JA, HERR ADMIRAL WE MUST KILL HIM BEFORE HE CAN HURT OUR FRIENDSHIP WITH THE ATLANTEANS!
LET ME LAY HANDS ON THE BILGE-RATS!
TAKE IT EASY, BEN...
SHOOT DER PIGS!
I'LL SOFTEN THEM UP FOR YOU FIRST!
KILL DER SCHWEIN!
THREE STRIKES--- AND YOU'RE OUT!
MAY I CUT IN?


HOW DO YOU LIKE BEING HIT AMIDSHIPS?
KAMERAD!
OLD BEN STUNSEL FIGHTS WITH A FURY THAT BELIES HIS AGE...
YE MURDERIN' PIRATES--- I'LL ROLL YE IN THE SCUPPERS!
NICE GOING, SAILOR!
VALIANT AS THE AMERICAN BATTLERS ARE, THE NAZIS OVERWHELM THEM BY SHEER WEIGHT OF NUMBERS...
I DARE YOU TO TAKE ME ON ONE AT A TIME!
HUH?... THEY GOT ME--- BUT I MUSTN'T PASS OUT...
NOW YOU SHALL DIE LIKE THE DOGS YOU ARE!
IT WOULD BE A PLEASURE IF I COULD SEE YOU DIE FIRST LIKE THE RAT YOU ARE!
BUT A COMMANDING VOICE CRIES OUT IN ARCHAIC ENGLISH--- AND TENSE TRIGGER-FINGERS RELAX...
HOLD! KNOW'ST THOU NOT NO MAN MAY BE PUT TO DEATH IN ATLANTIS SAVE BY ORDER OF OUR MOST HIGH RULERS?
KANO---THE HIGH PRIEST! BUT---BUT---
WHAT'S ALL THIS?
BUT THESE ARE AMERICAN SAVAGES, SUCH AS I HAVE TOLD YOU ABOUT! THEY WOULD PLUNDER AND DESTROY THE WORLD!
WERE THEY FIENDS FROM THE PIT, OUR ATLANTEAN JUSTICE WOULD STILL GRANT THEM A TRIAL BEFORE OUR ALL-WISE EMPEROR AND EMPRESS!
COME--- WE SHALL GO TO THE TEMPLE OF JUSTICE!
ATLANTIS--- THE LOST LAND! AM I DREAMING, ROBIN?
PINCH ME, AND I'LL TELL YOU!


STERN BUT KINDLY, KANO, HIGH PRIEST OF ATLANTIS, ENLIGHTENS HIS AMAZED PRISONERS WITH A FANTASTIC TALE...
IS THIS ACTUALLY THE ATLANTIS THAT WAS A PART OF THE ANCIENT WORLD?
AYE--- OUR HISTORY REACHES BACK TEN THOUSAND YEARS AND MORE! AT THAT TIME WE HAD ALREADY HARNESSED THE POWER OF THE LIGHTNING AND BUILT FLYING SHIPS SUCH AS THINE...
"...OUR WISE MEN LOOKED INTO THE FUTURE, AND FORESAW NOT ONLY THE TIDAL WAVE AND EARTHQUAKE THAT WOULD ENGULF US, BUT ALSO THE WARS AND PLAGUES THAT WOULD VISIT THE WORLD THEREAFTER...
MEN WILL GO MAD, XANO! BETTER THAT ATLANTIS SHOULD PERISH!
WHY PERISH WHEN WE MAY SO EASILY CUT OURSELVES OFF FROM OTHER NATIONS?
"...THE ELDERS AGREED THAT WE SHOULD EXCLUDE OURSELVES FROM THE REST OF THE WORLD... THEY BUILT THE DOME YOU SEE ABOVE US, AND HUNG A FIERY GLOBE TO TAKE THE PLACE OF THE SUN...
"...AND WHEN THE SEA ROSE UP AGAINST US, WE WERE READY!
AIR
"...TWICE EACH MONTH, MACHINERY CREATES THE WHIRLPOOL WHICH BROUGHT YOU HERE... IT OPENS A PASSAGE FROM THE SURFACE OF THE OCEAN TO THE CITY, WHEREBY WE OBTAIN AIR TO BREATHE...
ATLANTIS
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"...FOUR CENTURIES AGO AN ENGLISH VESSEL WAS CAUGHT IN THE WHIRLPOOL. ABOARD IT WAS A PHILOSOPHER, WHO SURVIVED, AND TAUGHT US THIS LANGUAGE WHICH WE SPEAK IN PREFERENCE TO OUR ANCIENT TONGUE...
A
HE WAS OUR LAST VISITOR, UNTIL OUR NAZI FRIENDS--- WHO LOVE PEACE AND JUSTICE, AS WE DO--- FOUND THE UNDERWATER ENTRANCE TO ATLANTIS BY ACCIDENT!
YOUR NAZI FRIENDS WHO LOVE--- WHAT?

WITHIN THE TEMPLE OF JUSTICE, A SCENE OF POMP AND SPLENDOR GREETS THE TRIO ...
IF I LIVE TO TELL THE TALE, I'LL BE CALLED THE BIGGEST LIAR OF THE SEVEN SEAS!
IT ISN'T A DREAM! I COULD NEVER IMAGINE ANYTHING LIKE THIS!
HO! WE BEG AUDIENCE WITH OUR ALL-WISE EMPEROR TARO, AND OUR ALL-BEAUTIFUL EMPRESS LANYA!
CURTAINS OF GOLD CLOTH TREMBLE...RUSTLE
NOW WE'LL SEE THE HIGH-AND-MIGHTY ONES WHO CAN KILL OR SAVE US!
I'LL BET THEY'RE A COUPLE OF TOUGH OLD BIRDS!
AND THE ROYAL RULERS OF ATLANTIS ARE REVEALED IN ALL THEIR GLORY!
WHA---! A BOY AND A GIRL--- AND HE LOOKS LIKE YOU!
SHE'S THE PRETTIEST GIRL I'VE EVER SEEN!
THE TRIAL IS SCRUPULOUSLY FAIR...
YOUR MAJESTY, AMERICA WISHES TO ENSLAVE THE WORLD--- AND IF THESE THREE GO FREE THEY WILL BRING WAR TO ATLANTIS ALSO! WE GERMANS, UNDER OUR ENLIGHTENED FUEHRER, ARE SWORN TO PRESERVE PEACE AND LIBERTY!
IT'S A LIE, YOUR HONOR--- I MEAN, YOUR MAJESTY!
THE NAZIS HAVE DECEIVED YOU SO THAT YOU WILL PERMIT THEM TO USE ATLANTIS AS A SUBMARINE BASE! THEY ARE THE SAVAGES, THE MURDERERS, THE ONES WHO WOULD BIND ALL NATIONS IN CHAINS!
ACH, SUCH A FIB!
HOW CAN I WEIGH THE WORD OF THREE AGAINST THE SWORN TESTIMONY OF A HUNDRED?
BUT FROM THE POINT OF VIEW OF THE BOY MONARCH, ONLY ONE VERDICT IS POSSIBLE...
I HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO BELIEVE THE HUNDRED! THE THREE MUST DIE FOR THE GREATEST GOOD OF THE GREATEST NUMBER!
NO, BROTHER--- PRAY LET ME SPEAK!
THAT ONE IS NO MORE THAN A BOY! IF HE BE EVIL, IT IS BECAUSE HE HATH FALLEN IN EVIL COMPANY!
VERY WELL... PLACE THE LAD IN THE DUNGEON--- AND LET THE OTHERS BE SACRIFICED TO OUR ATLANTEAN SUN!
IF YOU KILL THE BATMAN, I DON'T WANT TO LIVE!
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IN THE GREAT SQUARE BEFORE THE TEMPLE THE BATMAN AND BEN STANSEL ARE BOUND TO THE TOPS OF LOFTY MASTS...
HAVE YE ANY NOTION WHAT THEY'RE UP TO, MATEY?
ALL I'M SURE OF IS, IT'S SUPPOSED TO BE FATAL!
LENSES MOUNTED ON TALL STANDARDS ARE WHEELED INTO PLACE---AND THE ATLANTEAN METHOD OF EXECUTION BECOMES HORRIBLY APPARENT...
A CLEVER RACE THESE ATLANTEANS! TOO BAD THEY ARE NOT ARYAN!
EVEN SO, IT IS TOO FINE A METHOD OF KILLING TO BE OVERLOOKED! I MUST MENTION IT IN MY NEXT REPORT!
FOCUSED BY THE BURNING-GLASSES, THE FIERCE RAYS OF THE ARTIFICIAL SUN BEAT PITILESSLY UPON THE HEADS OF THE CONDEMNED MEN...
WHAT A WAY TO DIE! FIRST THE UNBEARABLE HEAT... THEN MADNESS... AND THEN... ANYWAY, I'M GLAD ROBIN ISN'T HERE TO SEE IT!
AND WHAT OF ROBIN? AT THIS MOMENT GUARDS ARE LEADING HIM DOWN SEEMINGLY ENDLESS FLIGHTS OF STONE STEPS...
SO FAR, LAD, THAT THOU WILT NOT HAVE THE STRENGTH TO RETURN, IF EVER OUR EMPEROR'S MERCY SETS THEE FREE!
HOW MUCH FARTHER?
SUDDENLY...
WANT TO BET?
SAVE ME, COMRADE!
NAY, I CANNOT! THE BRAT HATH UNSETTLED ME ALSO!
A TERRIBLE FEAR LENDS STRENGTH TO THE DRIVING MUSCLES THAT HURL THE BOY WONDER UPWARD...
WHAT IF THEY HAVEN'T KILLED THE BATMAN YET?.. I DON'T KNOW HOW I CAN HELP HIM, BUT---
WELL, WELL--- JUST WHAT THE DOCTOR ORDERED!
BACK TO THE DUNGEONS, RASH YOUTH!

I HATE TO DO THIS, YOUR MAJESTY--- BUT YOU'VE GOT IT COMING FOR BELEVING THOSE NAZI LIES!
OHHH!!
A LIGHTNING CHANGE OF GARMENT, AND...
WE LOOK ENOUGH ALIKE SO THAT I OUGHT TO GET AWAY WITH IT... BUT I MUSTN'T FORGET TO SPEAK OLD-STYLE ENGLISH!
A DRAMATIC SCENE IS ENACTED ON THE BALCONY OF THE TEMPLE OF JUSTICE..
HO MEN OF ATLANTIS--- YOUR EMPEROR HATH BEEN BLIND! RELEASE THE PRISONERS AT ONCE!
TARO MY BROTHER-- I AM SO GLAD!... WHY---WHY YOU ARE NOT TARO! YOU ARE...
PLEASE, EMPRESS... YOU SAVED MY LIFE--- NOW LET ME SAVE MY FRIEND! WE TOLD THE TRUTH, EVEN IF TARO WOULDN'T BELIEVE US!
FAITH LAD I BELIEVE THEE! MY BROTHER WILL BE ANGRY, BUT DO AS THOU THINKEST RIGHT!
WE STILL HAVE ONE CHANCE... WE SHALL SEIZE THE EMPEROR!
JA---WE WERE FOOLS NOT TO HAVE DONE SO IN THE FIRST PLACE!
ITS ROBIN! BUT HOW DID HE MANAGE IT?
AT LAST THE NAZIS REVEAL THEMSELVES IN THEIR TRUE COLORS...
PROCEED WITH THE EXECUTION, OR I SHALL KILL YOUR PIG-HEADED EMPEROR!
WHAT---? WHERE---?
AS THE BATMAN STRUGGLES FRANTICALLY TO BURST HIS HALF-LOOSENED THONGS, BEN STUNSEL SNATCHES A BRONZE HELMET FROM AN ATLANTEAN GUARD AND HURLS IT WITH PERFECT AIM...
SO NOW YED MURDER BOYS AS WELL AS HONEST SEAMEN, WOULD YE?
KILL HIM, SOLDIERS OF THE REICH!

THE NEXT INSTANT...
A-A-A-H-H-H...
BUT THE HEROIC ACT HAS GIVEN ROBIN ALL THE OPPORTUNITY HE NEEDS...
WHY DON'T YOU FIGHT LIKE A MAN FOR A CHANGE?
SMITE HIM, ROBIN! IN TRUTH HE HATH DECEIVED US GRAVELY!
ONE BULLET WILL PUT AN END TO ALL THIS!
AND A SPLIT SECOND LATER, A MIGHTY LUNGE SETS THE BATMAN FREE...
SAVE THAT BULLET, ADMIRAL!
HEIN? JA...I SHALL SAVE IT FOR YOU!
A LITTLE SLOW ON THE TRIGGER, AREN'T YOU?
ACH--- I AM RUINED!
ENRAGED BY THE ATTEMPT ON THE LIFE OF THE BOY THEY BELIEVE TO BE THEIR EMPEROR, THE PEACEFUL ATLANTEANS SWEEP IN A TIDAL WAVE OF HUMANITY OVER THE BEWILDERED GERMANS...
IF YOU THINK I'M GOING TO SIT THIS ONE OUT, YOU'RE CRAZY!
LET NONE ESCAPE, MY PEOPLE! SHOW THEM THAT WE OF ATLANTIS KNOW HOW TO FIGHT, EVEN THOUGH WE PREFER PEACE!
HAD ENOUGH, CHUM?
THIS WILL SETTLE YOUR NERVES!
PRESENTLY...
TO THE DUNGEONS WITH THEM! WE SHALL DEAL LIKEWISE WITH THE OTHERS WHEN THEY RETURN IN THEIR SUBMARINES FOR FUEL AND SUPPLIES!
WHAT A FIGHT!
WHAT A GIRL!

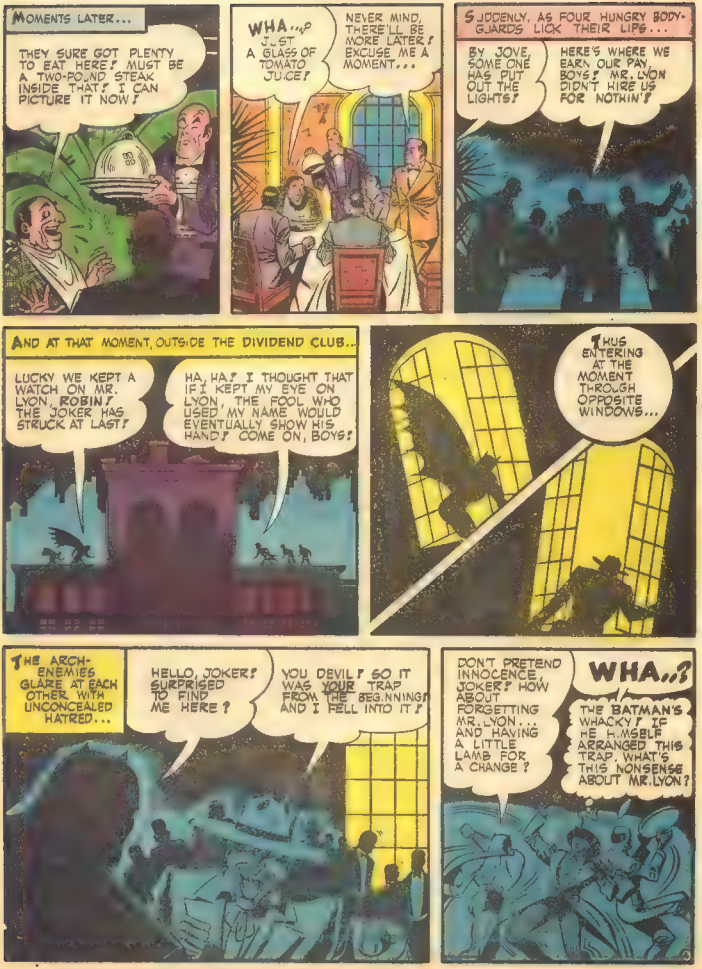
AN AMERICAN HERO SAYS GOODBYE...
SO THEY GOT OLD BEN AT LAST!... BUT I'M MAKIN' MY LAST VOYAGE WITHOUT REGRETS... KNOWIN' I HELPED WIPE 'EM OFF THE FACE O' THE EARTH!... SO LONG, BATMAN... ROBIN...
SO LONG, BEN STUNSEL...
ALL ATLANTIS SHALL DO HIM HONOR!
WHEN EXPLANATIONS HAVE BEEN MADE AND MISUNDERSTANDINGS STRAIGHTENED OUT..
THY BLOW IS FORGIVEN, ROBIN,--- FOR IT OPENED MINE EYES TO THE TRUTH! THOU AND THE BATMAN MAY GO IN PEACE--- LEAVING ONLY THY PROMISE TO TELL NO MAN WHERE ATLANTIS LIES!
YOUR SECRET IS SAFE WITH US!
READY, ROBIN?
I GUESS--- I GUESS--- THIS IS GOODBYE, LANYA--- YOUR MAJESTY!
GOODBYE--- ROBIN--- AND GOOD FORTUNE GO WITH THEE!
AUTOGYRO BLADES LIFT THE BATPLANE INTO A GRIMMER, LESS ROMANTIC, GLAWROUS WORLD, AS THE VAST WHIRLPOOL AGAIN DRILLS A PASSAGE FROM THE TOP TO THE BOTTOM OF THE SEA...
THAT'S THE END OF THOSE U-BOATS, ROBIN--- AND OF ALL OTHERS THAT MAKE ATLANTIS A PORT OF CALL! A GRAND ADVENTURE, WASN'T IT?
I'LL NEVER FORGET HER---I MEAN IT!
AS SWIRLING WATERS CLOSE OVER THE SHINING CITY OF THE AGES...
YOU MEAN HER, YOU ROMANTIC YOUNG RASCAL! AND HERE'S A LETTER SHE ASKED ME TO GIVE YOU, ONCE ON OUR WAY!
FOR ME?-- QUICK--- LET ME SEE!
Dear Robin:
Fate hath decreed that we shall not meet again, but I would have thee know that my nation shall fight beside thine for the dignity of the human race--- yet, having forsworn the world, we must fight alone, in our own way...
Keep well our secret and think of me sometimes, not as the ruler of a people, but simply as,
Thy friend,
Lanya
SOME DAYS LATER...
HERE'S SOMETHING, DICK... AN AMERICAN SUBMARINE IN THE CARIBBEAN, NEAR WHERE WE WERE, FOUND THREE NAZI U-BOATS TRAPPED IN A METAL NET FAR BELOW THE SURFACE--- AND NO ONE SEEMS TO KNOW HOW THE NET GOT THERE!
AND TO THINK I'LL PROBABLY NEVER SEE HER AGAIN!
TRIBUNE
The End

PRIVATE PETE
HENRY GOLTHOFF
ADVANCE INTO THOSE WOODS! THE 'BLUE ARMY' HAS IT NOW AND WE'VE GOT TO GET IT!
REMEMBER, MEN, THESE MANEUVERS ARE AS IMPORTANT AS ACTUAL COMBAT!
HELP
WE GIVE UP!!
NO - NO WE ALL SURRENDER
JUMPIN' TOADS - PRIVATE PETE ROUNDED UP THAT WHOLE SECTION BY HIMSELF!
CONGRATULATIONS! YOU'VE DONE A MASTERFUL JOB! HOW ON EARTH DID YOU MANAGE TO OVERPOWER THEM?
"WE" DID IT, SIR! I BROUGHT ALONG 'HOMER,' MY PET!
A SKUNK!

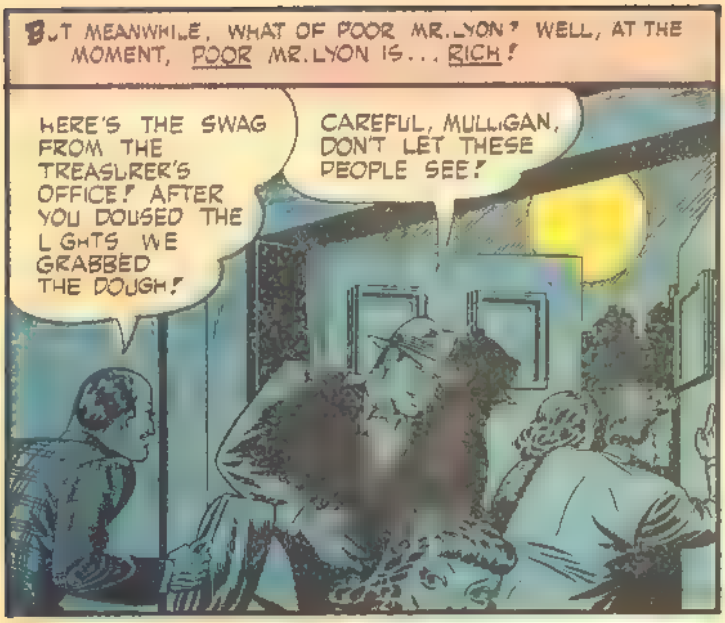
BATMAN
WITH
ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER
BOB KANE
THOUGH THE ZOO'S A HOME FOR ALL ANIMALS FROM AARDVARKS TO ZEBRAS, THERE'S ONE SPECIES THAT'S BEEN OVER-LOOKED... MAN!... UNTIL A CLEVER CRIMINAL WEAVES STEEL WIRE AND IRON BARS INTO A BEWILDERING CRIME-PATTERN THAT BAFFLES EVEN THAT DYNAMIC DUO, BATMAN AND ROBIN! AND WHEN THAT ARCH BUFFOON OF BANDITRY, THE JOKER, FISHING IN TROUBLED WATERS, ATTEMPTS TO FOX THE BATMAN AND LIFT THE LION'S SHARE OF THE LOOT... THERE'S A THREE-CORNERED FIGHT AHEAD, WITH THE FORCES OF CRIME DOUBLING UP AGAINST THE MANTLED PAIR, AS THE FAMED CRIME-FIGHTERS TACKLE...
"THE CASE OF THE TIMID LION!"
GRRRRRRRRRR
REPTILE HOUSE
PEANUTS
IT IS MORNING AT THE GOTHAM ZOO... AND A STILL SLEEPY ATTENDANT YAWNS AS THE NEW DAY'S WORK BEGINS...
WONDER WHY THEY DIDN'T LEAVE THESE FISH AT THE AQUARIUM, INSTEAD OF BRINGING THEM TO THE ZOO! THEY'RE JUST MORE WORK ... HUH?.. WHAT'S THAT TAPPING?
TAP TAP TAP

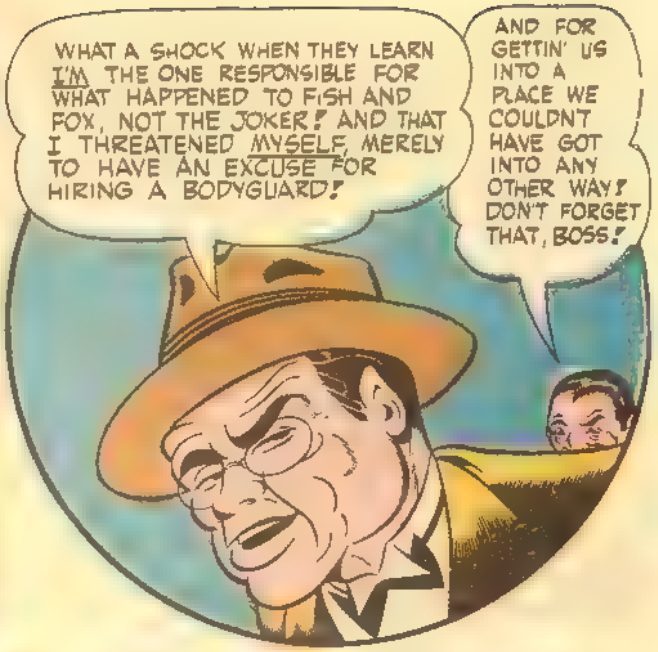
LET ME OUT OF HERE!
HEY... HOW'D YOU GET IN?
LET ME OUT!
GOLLY! THE JOKER'S UP TO HIS OLD TRICKS AGAIN!
What better home can Mr. Fish have? Ha! The Joker
SEEMS THAT WAY! LET US GLANCE AT MR. FISH A FEW MOMENTS LATER...
I WAS WALKING HOME, OFFICER, WHEN I FELT A BLOW ON THE HEAD, AND LOST CONSCIOUSNESS! WHEN I WOKE UP, I WAS IN THAT TANK!
I GUESS THE JOKER PICKED ON YOU BECAUSE OF YOUR NAME! HE'S GOT A STRANGE SENSE OF HUMOR!
YES, ALL GOTHAM KNOWS AND FEARS THE MASTER MUMMER'S MOCKERY! AND SO, ALMOST NO ONE IS SURPRISED WHEN THE FOLLOWING DAY...
HELP! LET ME OUT!
GEE, POP, YOU SEE FUNNY THINGS WHEN YOU COME TO THE ZOO EARLY!
GULP! IT MUST BE ANOTHER TRICK OF THE JOKER'S!
GEE, JUST BECAUSE HIS NAME'S FOX, I'M GLAD I HAVEN'T GOT AN ANIMAL NAME! PLAIN OLD JONES IS GOOD ENOUGH FOR ME!
Here's a little suitable Company for Mr. Fox! Ha! The Joker
ALAS, NOT EVERYONE CAN BE JONES! THERE ARE EVEN A FEW UNFORTUNATES WHO ARE NAMED... WELL, SEE FOR YOURSELF...
HELP! POLICE! HELP!
TAKE IT EASY, MISTER! WHAT'S ALL THE EXCITEMENT ABOUT?
HUH?
You're next Mr. Lyon! Ha, Ha! The Joker
HE WANTS TO PUT ME INTO THE LION'S CAGE! YOU'VE GOT TO STOP HIM!

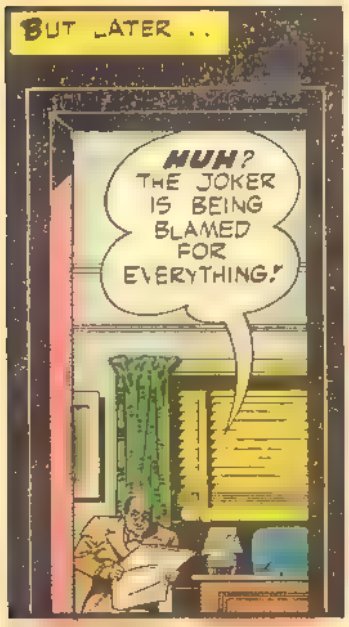
STOP THE JOKER? IT ISN'T AS EASY AS IT SOUNDS... AND YOU CAN TAKE THE WORD OF BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS YOUNG WARD, DICK GRAYSON, FOR IT! THAT VERY EVENING...
THERE'S SOMETHING STRANGE HERE, BRUCE! THE JOKER ACTED WITHOUT WARNING IN THE CASE OF MR. FISH AND MR. FOX! BUT HERE...
HE LET MR. LYON KNOW WHAT HE INTENDED TO DO! I NOTICED THAT POINT, DICK! ALL THE SAME...
JOKER THREATENS DEATH TO LYON!
I MUST CONFESS THAT THIS IS ONE TIME I CAN'T IMAGINE WHAT THE JOKER IS UP TO!
I SUPPOSE, BRUCE, HE HIMSELF MUST BE THE ONLY ONE IN THE WORLD WHO KNOWS!
THAT'S WHERE YOU'RE WRONG, DICK! THIS TIME, EVEN THE MASTER OF MOCKERY IS BAFFLED BY THE SERIES OF MYSTERIOUS EVENTS!
BOSS, IT'S COME TO THE POINT WHERE WE GOTTA READ THE PAPERS TO FIND OUT WHAT YOU'RE DOIN'! WHAT'S IT ABOUT?
HA, HA!
I DON'T KNOW, MONK!
I HAVEN'T BEEN COMMITTING THESE CRIMES AT ALL! SOME FOOL HAS BEEN USING MY NAME! I'M GOING TO LEARN WHO HE IS, AND THEN... HA, HA, I'LL ENJOY MYSELF!
I WOULDN'T WANT TO BE IN HIS SHOES WHEN YOU GET AFTER HIM, BOSS!
HMM... THE EVIL KING OF JESTERS INNOCENT, FOR ONCE? THEN WHAT CUNNING KNAVE IS GUILTY? LET US WATCH TREMBLING MR. LYON AS, DISSATISFIED WITH POLICE PROTECTION, HE HIRES A BODYGUARD OF HIS OWN...
THE JOKER CERTAINLY THREW A SCARE INTO MR. LYON! HE WON'T EVEN WALK DOWN A CROWDED STREET WITHOUT HIS BODYGUARD!
YES, WHEREVER MR. LYON GOES, THERE GOES HIS BODYGUARD! AS, FOR EXAMPLE...
HEY, BOSS, THIS IS A RITZY PLACE! YOU CAN GET IN... BUT WE CAN'T!
THIS ONCE, BOYS, THEY'LL MAKE AN EXCEPTION! I'VE CONVINCED THEM THAT I MUST BE PROTECTED! COME ALONG!
DIVIDEND Club
YOU WERE RIGHT, BOSS, HERE WE ARE! WHEN DO WE GET STARTED?
VERY SOON! HERE COMES A WAITER FOR US. I'LL ORDER SOMETHING TO EAT!
3

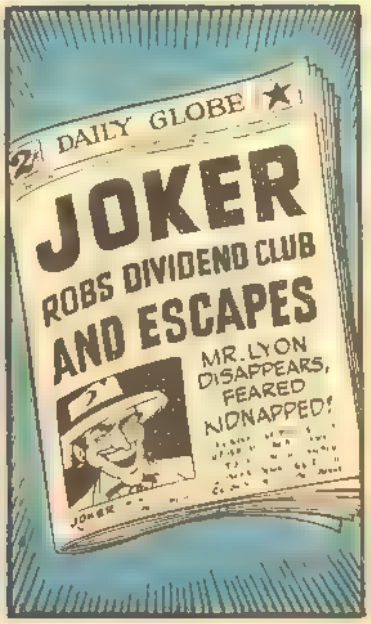

MOMENTS LATER...
THEY SURE GOT PLENTY TO EAT HERE! MUST BE A TWO-POUND STEAK INSIDE THAT! I CAN PICTURE IT NOW!
WHA...? JUST A GLASS OF TOMATO JUICE!
NEVER MIND, THERE'LL BE MORE LATER! EXCUSE ME A MOMENT...
SUDDENLY, AS FOUR HUNGRY BODY-GUARDS LICK THEIR LIPS...
BY JOVE, SOME ONE HAS PUT OUT THE LIGHTS!
HERE'S WHERE WE EARN OUR PAY, BOYS! MR. LYON DIDN'T HIRE US FOR NOTHIN'!
AND AT THAT MOMENT, OUTSIDE THE DIVIDEND CLUB...
LUCKY WE KEPT A WATCH ON MR. LYON, ROBIN! THE JOKER HAS STRUCK AT LAST!
HA, HA! I THOUGHT THAT IF I KEPT MY EYE ON LYON, THE FOOL WHO USED MY NAME WOULD EVENTUALLY SHOW HIS HAND! COME ON, BOYS!
THUS ENTERING AT THE MOMENT THROUGH OPPOSITE WINDOWS...
THE ARCH-ENEMIES GLARE AT EACH OTHER WITH UNCONCEALED HATRED...
HELLO, JOKER! SURPRISED TO FIND ME HERE?
YOU DEVIL! SO IT WAS YOUR TRAP FROM THE BEG.NNING! AND I FELL INTO IT!
DON'T PRETEND INNOCENCE, JOKER! HOW ABOUT FORGETTING MR. LYON... AND HAVING A LITTLE LAMB FOR A CHANGE?
WHA...?
THE BATMAN'S WHACKY! IF HE HIMSELF ARRANGED THIS TRAP, WHAT'S THIS NONSENSE ABOUT MR. LYON?

YOU LOOK WEAK, CHUM... TRY THIS GRAPEFRUIT FOR VITAMIN C!
GLUB!
BOTH COMING AT ME AT THE SAME TIME! I'LL HAVE TO MOVE FAST... FASTER, I'M AFRAID, THAN I CAN!
HAVE A DRINK, BATMAN! YOU WON'T FEEL THIRSTY AFTER THIS... HA-HA!
NOBODY DRINKS OUT OF A PITCHER THESE DAYS, JOKER! USE THIS TUMBLER INSTEAD!
NICE HOSPITALITY, ROBIN! I'M GLAD I'VE TAUGHT YOU POLITENESS!
OWW... WHY YOU LITTLE BRAT...
I FOLLOW YOUR EXAMPLE, BATMAN! THIS THUG COMES AT YOU WITH MURDER IN HIS EYE...
AND ALL I SAY IS... HAVE A PIECE OF CAKE, CHUM!
GLUG!
WHAT'S YOUR HURRY, JOKER? THE FUN'S JUST BEGINNING!
CURSE YOU, BATMAN, THIS IS THE LAST TIME YOU CATCH ME BY SURPRISE!
HE THINKS HE'S GETTING AWAY! WHAT A MISTAKE!
BUT AS THE OLD SAYING RUNS, THERE'S MANY A SLIP...
THE WATER FROM THAT PITCHER IS PUTTING THE SKIDS UNDER US!
AND THE JOKER IS SLIPPING AWAY!
5

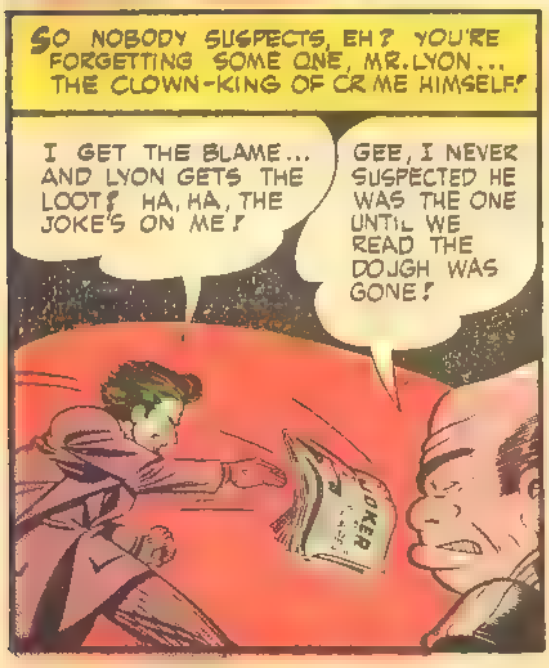

BUT MEANWHILE, WHAT OF POOR MR. LYON? WELL, AT THE MOMENT, POOR MR. LYON IS... RICH!
HERE'S THE SWAG FROM THE TREASURER'S OFFICE! AFTER YOU DOUSED THE LIGHTS WE GRABBED THE DOUGH!
CAREFUL, MULLIGAN, DON'T LET THESE PEOPLE SEE!

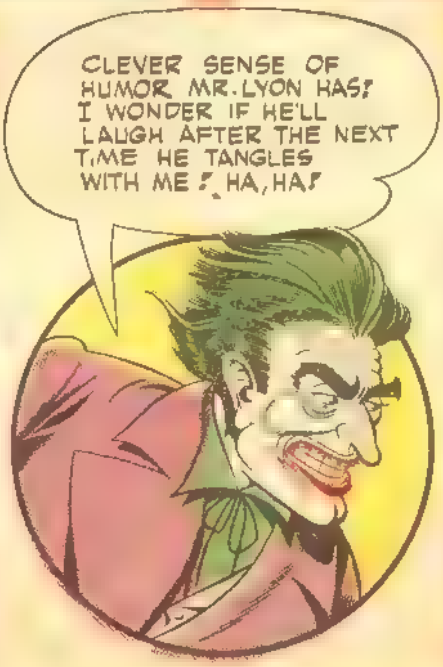

WHAT A SHOCK WHEN THEY LEARN I'M THE ONE RESPONSIBLE FOR WHAT HAPPENED TO FISH AND FOX, NOT THE JOKER! AND THAT I THREATENED MYSELF, MERELY TO HAVE AN EXCUSE FOR HIRING A BODYGUARD!
AND FOR GETTIN' US INTO A PLACE WE COULDN'T HAVE GOT INTO ANY OTHER WAY! DON'T FORGET THAT, BOSS!

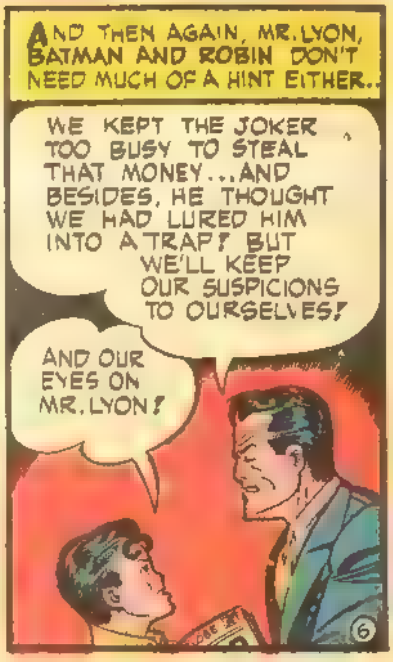

BUT LATER..
HUH? THE JOKER IS BEING BLAMED FOR EVERYTHING!


DAILY GLOBE
JOKER
ROBS DIVIDEND CLUB AND ESCAPES
MR. LYON DISAPPEARS, FEARED KIDNAPPED!

NOBODY SUSPECTS ME! I CAN SHOW MYSELF AGAIN, SAY I RAN AWAY TO ESCAPE THE JOKER... AND PULL OFF ANOTHER JOB!
YEAH, BUT NEXT TIME, BOSS, EVERYBODY WILL KNOW! YOU CAN'T BE THIS LUCKY TWICE!


SO NOBODY SUSPECTS, EH? YOU'RE FORGETTING SOME ONE, MR. LYON... THE CLOWN-KING OF CRIME HIMSELF!
I GET THE BLAME... AND LYON GETS THE LOOT! HA, HA, THE JOKE'S ON ME!
GEE, I NEVER SUSPECTED HE WAS THE ONE UNTIL WE READ THE DOUGH WAS GONE!
JOKER


CLEVER SENSE OF HUMOR MR. LYON HAS! I WONDER IF HE'LL LAUGH AFTER THE NEXT TIME HE TANGLES WITH ME! HA, HA!

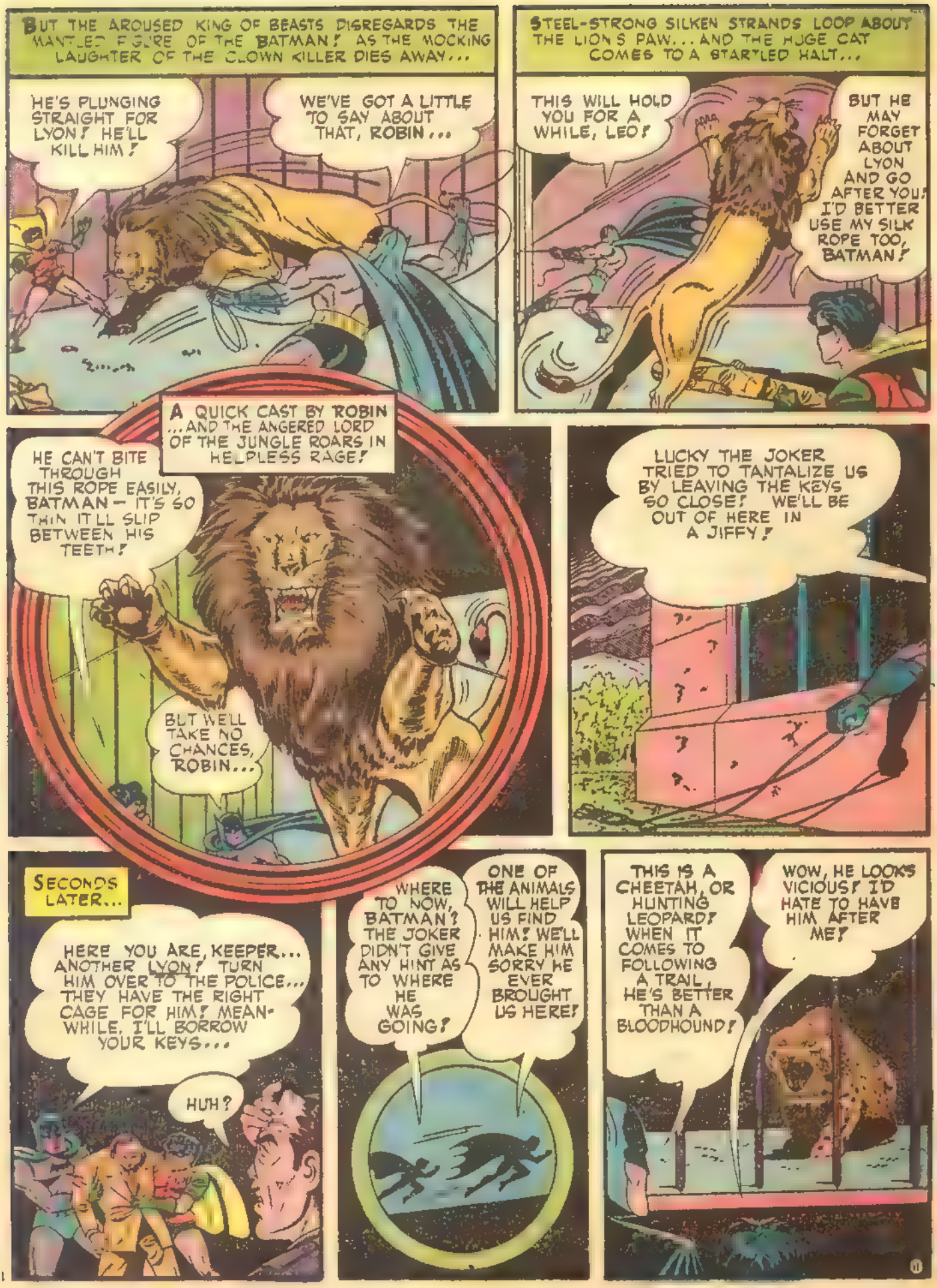

AND THEN AGAIN, MR. LYON, BATMAN AND ROBIN DON'T NEED MUCH OF A HINT EITHER..
WE KEPT THE JOKER TOO BUSY TO STEAL THAT MONEY... AND BESIDES, HE THOUGHT WE HAD LURED HIM INTO A TRAP! BUT WE'LL KEEP OUR SUSPICIONS TO OURSELVES!
AND OUR EYES ON MR. LYON!

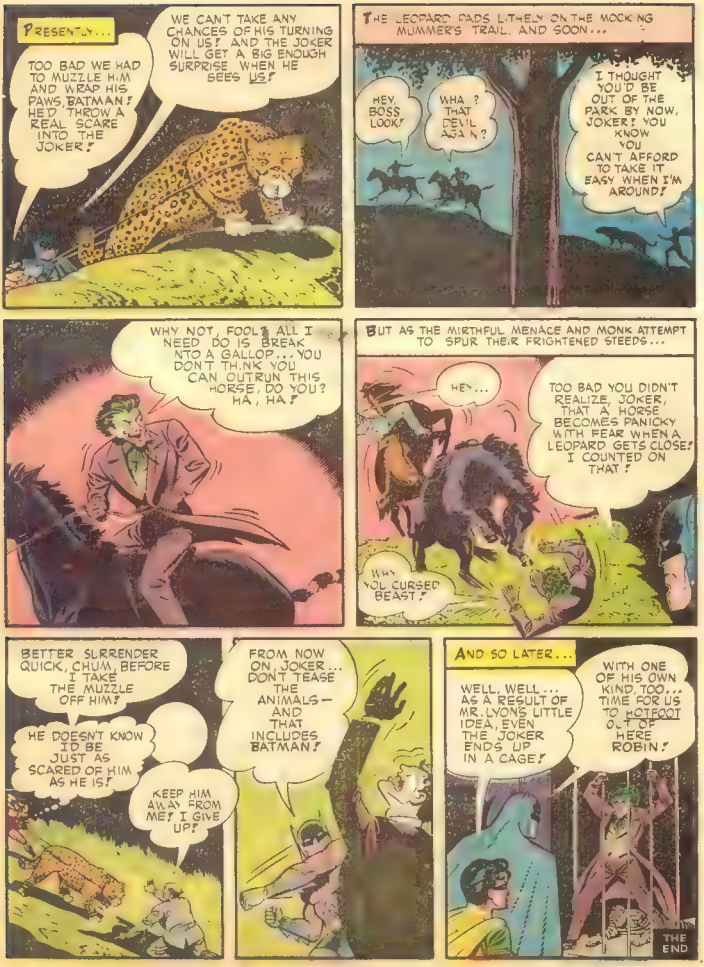
SO, PRESENTLY...
GEE, MR. LYON, WHY COME HERE? THEM GUYS GALLOPIN' AROUND SOCKIN' A BALL DON'T MAKE SENSE!
QUIET, MULLIGAN! ALL THE BEST PEOPLE COME TO POLO GAMES!
I GET IT... WE ROB ONLY THE BEST PEOPLE! THEY HAVE MORE THINGS WORTH TAKIN'!
EXACTLY! AND WE START TAKING NOW!
OVERLOOK NOTHING, MEN... THIS OPPORTUNITY MAY NOT COME AGAIN!
HELP!
BEAUTY BEFORE AGE, LADY... DIS'LL LOOK BETTER ON ME THAN ON YOU!
SECONDS LATER, AS THE LOOT-LADEN CRIMINALS DASH FOR AN EXIT...
THE JOKER!
SURPRISED TO SEE ME? HA, HA! WHY, YOU'RE TREMBLING LIKE A MOUSE, MR. LYON!
AND THEN...
BATMAN! WHERE DID YOU AND THAT BRAT COME FROM?
NICE OF YOU TO ASK, JOKER! WE WERE HIDDEN IN A BOX WE HAD COMMISSIONER GORDON RESERVE!
WE HAD AN IDEA THERE MIGHT BE A LITTLE REUNION SOON!
WHAT A FIX I'M IN NOW!!

TRY THE VIEW FROM THIS BOX, JOKER!
CURSE YOU, BATMAN!
I NEVER THOUGHT I'D DARE TACKLE A LYON ALL BY MYSELF!
OH...
TUT, TUT, BOYS, MUSTN'T FIGHT... ISN'T IT MUCH NICER WHEN YOU GET TOGETHER?
OWWW! NO!
AS THE FLASHING FISTS OF THE DYNAMIC DUO WREAK HAVOC IN A BEWILDERING BATTLE-ROYAL...
I'LL RUN AWAY, AND LET THEM FIGHT IT OUT THEMSELVES!
YOU WIN THIS TIME, BATMAN, BUT NEXT TIME...
I'M NOT FINISHED WITH YOU THIS TIME, FUNNY MAN!
YOU'RE IN TOO MUCH OF A HURRY TO GET AWAY... HOLD YOUR HORSES!
EXCUSE ME, PAL, I'D LIKE TO BORROW THIS...
MY WORD, WHAT..?
TAKE A TRIP— TRAVEL WILL BROADEN YOU— IT EVEN FLATTENS YOU!
HEY, CUT THAT OUT!
8

I THINK I'M GOING TO ENJOY THIS GAME! HA, HA!!
AS THE BATMAN'S BACK IS TURNED, THE HARLEQUIN OF HATE SNATCHES A HARD-HIT POLO BALL...
...AND HURLS IT SWIFTLY AT THE UNSUSPECTING BATMAN...
THIS WILL KNOCK YOU FOR A GOAL, BATMAN!
BUT THE MOCKING MURDERER HAS RECKONED WITHOUT THE BATMAN'S FAITHFUL YOUNG COMPANION!
CRACK!
YOU'VE DONE AS MUCH FOR ME PLENTY OF TIMES, BATMAN!
WHA...? THANKS, ROBIN!
OOOOFFF!
SCORE ONE FOR OUR SIDE!
THIS KID IS TOO SMART!
AN OPPORTUNITY TO RETURN ROBIN'S FAVOR.. BUT I'D BETTER HURRY!
AND NOW AS THE DYNAMIC DUO POUNDS ITS FALTERING FOES, ENTER FATE, IN THE PERSON OF THE FRIGHTENED MR. LYON!
BATMAN AND ROBIN AFTER ME, THE JOKER WANTING TO STEAL MY LOOT, THE HORSES TRYING TO RUN ME DOWN... I'M SORRY— I...OH...
OOOFF!
RING UP ANOTHER GOAL FOR YOURSELF ROBIN!
CLOP!
HUH? YOU'RE TAKING THIS GAME SERIOUSLY BATMAN!

THE MALEVOLENT MIME IS QUICK TO GRASP HIS OPPORTUNITY...
I'VE BEEN WAITING TO CATCH YOU OFF GUARD, BATMAN! NOW I'LL FINISH OFF THAT BRAT OF YOURS, AND THE INTERFERING MR. LYON...
AS THE CONNIVING COMEDIAN'S HENCHMEN DISPOSE OF THEIR REMAINING FOES...
AAAAAAA
MY KINGDOM FOR A HORSE...AS ANOTHER CROOKED CLOWN KING ONCE SAID! HA-HA!
SECONDS LATER...
HA, HA! THE POLICE ARRIVE TOO LATE!
ALL THEY'LL CATCH, BOSS, IS LYON'S MEN...WE'RE GETTIN' AWAY!
THE HUE AND CRY OF PURSUIT DIE AWAY! ONCE MORE THE EVIL JESTER HAS ESCAPED! AND THEN, SLOWLY, DAZED MINDS GROPE THEIR WAY BACK TO CONSCIOUSNESS, TO FIND...
HA HA! I NEVER THREATENED TO PUT LYON IN THE LION'S CAGE... BUT I DON'T OVERLOOK GOOD IDEAS, BATMAN! I'LL LOCK YOU IN, THEN THROW THE KEYS JUST OUT OF YOUR REACH!
DON'T, JOKER! I'LL NEVER USE YOUR NAME AGAIN!
YOU FIEND!
I'LL TAKE THE OTHER LION'S WORD FOR IT... HA, HA!
HE'S FAINTED! I'LL TRY TO ATTRACT THE LION'S ATTENTION. ROBIN — YOU SLIP TO ONE SIDE!
GRRR...

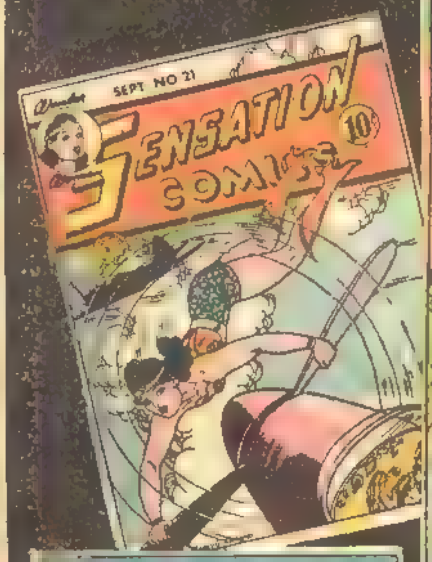

BUT THE AROUSED KING OF BEASTS DISREGARDS THE MANTLED FIGURE OF THE BATMAN! AS THE MOCKING LAUGHTER OF THE CLOWN KILLER DIES AWAY...
HE'S PLUNGING STRAIGHT FOR LYON! HE'LL KILL HIM!
WE'VE GOT A LITTLE TO SAY ABOUT THAT, ROBIN...
STEEL-STRONG SILKEN STRANDS LOOP ABOUT THE LION'S PAW... AND THE HUGE CAT COMES TO A STARTLED HALT...
THIS WILL HOLD YOU FOR A WHILE, LEO!
BUT HE MAY FORGET ABOUT LYON AND GO AFTER YOU! I'D BETTER USE MY SILK ROPE TOO, BATMAN!
A QUICK CAST BY ROBIN ...AND THE ANGERED LORD OF THE JUNGLE ROARS IN HELPLESS RAGE!
HE CAN'T BITE THROUGH THIS ROPE EASILY, BATMAN — IT'S SO THIN IT'LL SLIP BETWEEN HIS TEETH!
BUT WE'LL TAKE NO CHANCES, ROBIN...
LUCKY THE JOKER TRIED TO TANTALIZE US BY LEAVING THE KEYS SO CLOSE! WE'LL BE OUT OF HERE IN A JIFFY!
SECONDS LATER...
HERE YOU ARE, KEEPER... ANOTHER LYON! TURN HIM OVER TO THE POLICE... THEY HAVE THE RIGHT CAGE FOR HIM! MEANWHILE, I'LL BORROW YOUR KEYS...
HUH?
WHERE TO NOW, BATMAN? THE JOKER DIDN'T GIVE ANY HINT AS TO WHERE HE WAS GOING!
ONE OF THE ANIMALS WILL HELP US FIND HIM! WE'LL MAKE HIM SORRY HE EVER BROUGHT US HERE!
THIS IS A CHEETAH, OR HUNTING LEOPARD! WHEN IT COMES TO FOLLOWING A TRAIL, HE'S BETTER THAN A BLOODHOUND!
WOW, HE LOOKS VICIOUS! I'D HATE TO HAVE HIM AFTER ME!

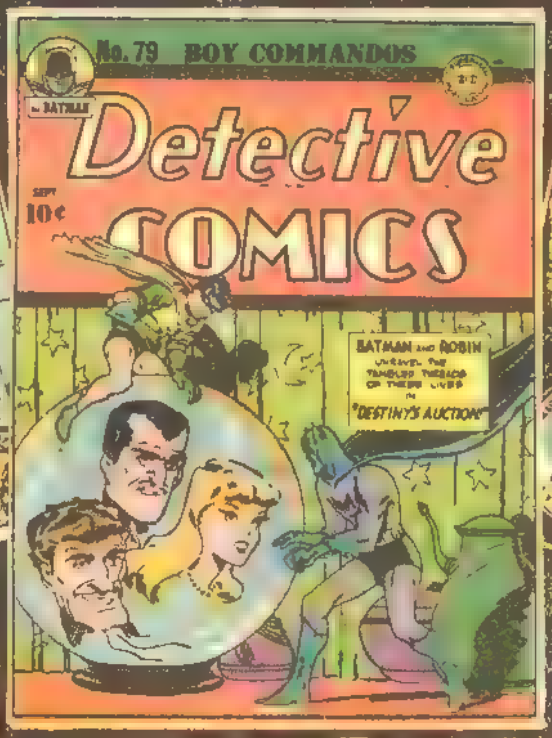

PRESENTLY...
TOO BAD WE HAD TO MUZZLE HIM AND WRAP HIS PAWS, BATMAN! HE'D THROW A REAL SCARE INTO THE JOKER!
WE CAN'T TAKE ANY CHANCES OF HIS TURNING ON US! AND THE JOKER WILL GET A BIG ENOUGH SURPRISE WHEN HE SEES US!
THE LEOPARD PADS LITHELY ON THE MOCKING MUMMER'S TRAIL, AND SOON...
HEY, BOSS LOOK!
WHA ? THAT DEVIL AGAIN?
I THOUGHT YOU'D BE OUT OF THE PARK BY NOW, JOKER! YOU KNOW YOU CAN'T AFFORD TO TAKE IT EASY WHEN I'M AROUND!
WHY NOT, FOOL? ALL I NEED DO IS BREAK INTO A GALLOP - YOU DON'T THINK YOU CAN OUTRUN THIS HORSE, DO YOU? HA, HA!
BUT AS THE MIRTHFUL MENACE AND MONK ATTEMPT TO SPUR THEIR FRIGHTENED STEEDS...
HEY...
TOO BAD YOU DIDN'T REALIZE, JOKER, THAT A HORSE BECOMES PANICKY WITH FEAR WHEN A LEOPARD GETS CLOSE! I COUNTED ON THAT!
WHY YOU CURSED BEAST!
BETTER SURRENDER QUICK, CHUM, BEFORE I TAKE THE MUZZLE OFF HIM!
HE DOESN'T KNOW IT'D BE JUST AS SCARED OF HIM AS HE IS!
KEEP HIM AWAY FROM ME! I GIVE UP!
FROM NOW ON, JOKER... DON'T TEASE THE ANIMALS— AND THAT INCLUDES BATMAN!
AND SO LATER...
WELL, WELL... AS A RESULT OF MR. LYON'S LITTLE IDEA, EVEN THE JOKER ENDS UP IN A CAGE!
WITH ONE OF HIS OWN KIND, TOO... TIME FOR US TO HOTFOOT OUT OF HERE ROBIN!
THE END

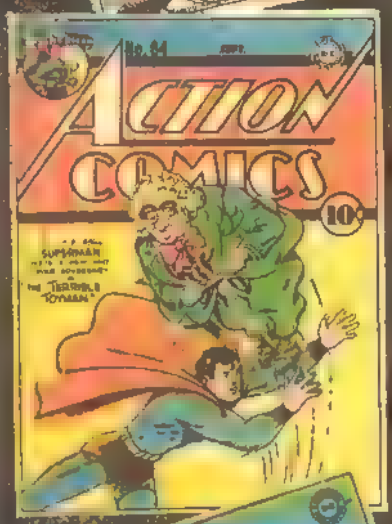
JERRY
THE JITTERBUG
IT SURE WAS SWELL OF HOMER TO LEND ME HIS BOSS'S DRESS SUIT FOR TONIGHT HE'S SOME SORT OF ACTOR, I GUESS!
STAGE DOOR
THOSE STAGE PEOPLE CERTAINLY KNOW HOW TO DRESS - - WOTTA SUIT!
THIS IS A REAL CLASSY AFFAIR I'M GOING TO - I'VE GOT TO LOOK JUST RIGHT!
I'LL JUST ACT VERY RESERVED AND LET THE PEOPLE NOTICE ME - -
HA HA!
WHAT'S THIS - A MENAGERIE?
HONK
SCREECH!
SAY HOMER - WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME THIS SUIT BELONGED TO A MAGICIAN?
CHEC ROOM

THE BIG EIGHT!

Tops in monthly comic magazines!







FOLLOW THE FURTHER ADVENTURES OF BATMAN AND ROBIN

A SUPERMAN DC PUBLICATION

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DRAMATIC FRAGMENT

by Ted Allenby

IN THE office which he shared with his new partner, the young lawyer listened to the tales of the theatre which the actor was relating.

Tall and gaunt, the young lawyer lounged uncomfortably in his chair. He liked the theatre, and now that one actually had come to Springfield, well—it was a big event for the town. The town just didn't seem to want to appreciate it.

He frowned, remembering the fuss that had been stirred up shortly after the new theatre began to take form. The fuss was rising now, and it threatened to take from the people of the town an entertainment they sorely needed. The creases on his high forehead became more apparent as anger took control of his mind. But only momentarily.

"Shucks," he reasoned, aware of the eyes of his visitor upon him. "There'll always be reformers." Just the same, he was good and mad.

He spoke to the visitor, one of the members of the company. "You had planned to be here an entire season?"

"Yes, sir. Since the legislature is in session, we thought a lot of people who had never seen flesh and blood shows would enjoy 'em." His eyes lighted. "Don't forget, sir," he pressed eagerly, "we have Joseph Jefferson and his father in our company." The visitor's voice rose. "You just watch young Joe. He's going to be one of the greatest actors in the world afore long."

"I don't doubt it." A smile creased the long, homely face. "With the privations you actors undergo, some reward is certainly necessary."

The visitor laughed. "Oh, we don't mind, sir. We're used to hard knocks." He grinned. "Why, when we were traveling from Galena to Dubuque over ice that was soft, you should have seen us. We finally made it, but then discovered we had lost a sleigh containing all our properties and baggage. Yes sir, the old Mississippi sure wanted to swallow it up."

He looked at the lawyer, and his eyes twinkled. This young fellow was certainly interested in the theatre. "But, sir, you know what happened? We were about all ready to give up, when Mr. Jefferson, senior, that is, said we shouldn't. After all, says he, every cloud has a silver lining. Let's see if we can't find that sleigh.

"Find it, sir? There wasn't one of us would believe ole Mississip would give up anything he got ahold of. But he did! Gol-darn if the sleigh hadn't lit on a sand bar when it broke through the ice. And there was our stuff, water-damaged but still intact. We managed to give a show."

As the visitor finished his recital, the young lawyer looked at him. The visitor's humbleness impressed him. He liked people who spoke simply of things they had done. Now, he said, kindly:

"I think that in your world the show always will go on."

He got up from his chair, held out his hand. "I would deem it an honor, sir," he said, "to represent your company." His head nodded up and down. "Without fee. I feel that you are being imposed upon and you deserve better treatment."

When the visitor had left, the lawyer sat down again. He stretched his long legs onto the roll top desk and looked out the window. Springfield was sure an up-and-coming town. A real theatre!

True, the building of the theatre did not represent an enormous investment. Folding opera chairs were then unknown. Gas was a mystery not yet acknowledged as a fact out in these parts; a second class quality of oil was enough to delight the heart of any manager. Out here, the footlights of the best theatre were composed of lamps set in a float with counterweights When a dark stage was required or the lamps needed trimming or refilling, this latter contrivance was made to sink under the stage.

The lawyer smiled. Being an actor was no soft job. Neither was being a lawyer, he decided. That had its privations and struggles, too.

But he wasn't thinking of himself now. He was thinking of the hope and the promise that had gone into this new theatre, which Mr. Jefferson, senior, and his partner, McKenzie had constructed.

These actors mustn't be let down.

With a sigh, the young lawyer got to his feet. He decided that a walk to the site might start his mind functioning.

Everybody in town knew him and his cheery smile. A lot of them owed him money, too, but he didn't think of that. He had always been interested in seeing Justice done.

It was not being done this

time, he thought, as he reached the new theatre and looked at it. It was not exactly a thing of beauty. It was about ninety feet deep and forty feet wide. No attempt had been made at ornamentation, and as it was unpainted, the simple lines of architecture upon which it was constructed gave it the appearance of a large dry goods box with a roof.

But, to the owners, it was beautiful. You had to know the theatre of the 1800's to realize how proud a man could be of a showplace which actually had a roof!

The young lawyer knew it. He knew, too, that a new lease on life had been given the company. And, when the blow fell, it had hurt. Horribly.

They had been doing so well, these actors from the East. The shows were simple and honest and had given entertainment to many. It had looked as though the company could stay in Springfield for a long time.

But then, in the midst of rising fortune, disaster had struck.

A religious revival gained in momentum. The participants launched forth in their sermons against the actors, who were pointed out as children of evil. Not only that, but by some political maneuver they had gotten the city to pass a new law demanding a license for this "unholy calling." The amount for the license was virtually prohibitory.

It was a terrible shock: all the company's funds had been invested in the new theatre, the Legislature was in session, the town was filled with people, and, because of a heavy license fee, the new theatre couldn't be opened.

Unfair? Tyrannical? It most certainly was. And, when the young lawyer heard of this, he had offered his services to the company managers. The visit of one of them today had furthered his determination to fight this injustice.

"The people need this entertainment," he told himself, as he walked away from the theatre, "and they are going to get it."

* * *

It was dusk when he reached his office and lighted the lamp. He pored over his law books, seeking an ordinance that might counteract the unjust one which a group of vote-seeking politicians had caused to be passed. Dawn found him still seated at his desk, which was now littered with weighty tomes. His young face looked strangely old and drawn as he gazed with distaste at the law books. Then he smiled. What this case needed, he discovered in a moment of inspiration, was not musty laws, but living words.

And that is what he had when he faced the city council.

The entire company was there to watch him, and, as they saw him confidently step before the council, the marks of worry each had been wearing, vanished. There was something in this stranger's face—this *friend's* face—that gave them confidence. If anything could be done, he would do it. Of that, they were sure.

They settled back in their chairs. Young Joe Jefferson, his eyes shining, hung onto every word uttered by his champion. "What an actor he would make," he murmured to a companion. "Look at the simplicity."

But it was more than that. There was great dignity, too, in the way the lawyer was delivering his harangue. He handled the subject with tact, skill, and humor. When he condemned, it was to the point of a joke, an anecdote that made the complainants look ludicrous.

The company marvelled as he went on. Not one had suspected that their counsellor had such knowledge of theatre. He traced, with consummate skill, the rise of acting from the time Thespis performed in a cart to the stage of today.

Then he went on to tell the now good-humored council of the theatre of tomorrow. How there were wonders as yet undreamed of which were to come. How thousands, even millions of people would be entertained. "This is a form of art which can never die," he said. "With age will come even greater skill."

Each ear in the room hung on attentively now. It was as though every person were hypnotized. And to bring them out of such hypnosis, from time to time, the young lawyer would introduce a jest.

Roars of laughter followed, one upon the other, as the ludicrousness of the exhorbitant tax was brought out. And finally, the speech was finished.

McKenzie and Jefferson, the theatre owners, relaxed in their chairs. They knew that everything would be all right, even though the council had not yet voted.

It was. The exorbitant tax was lifted. The theatre was to be permitted to function.

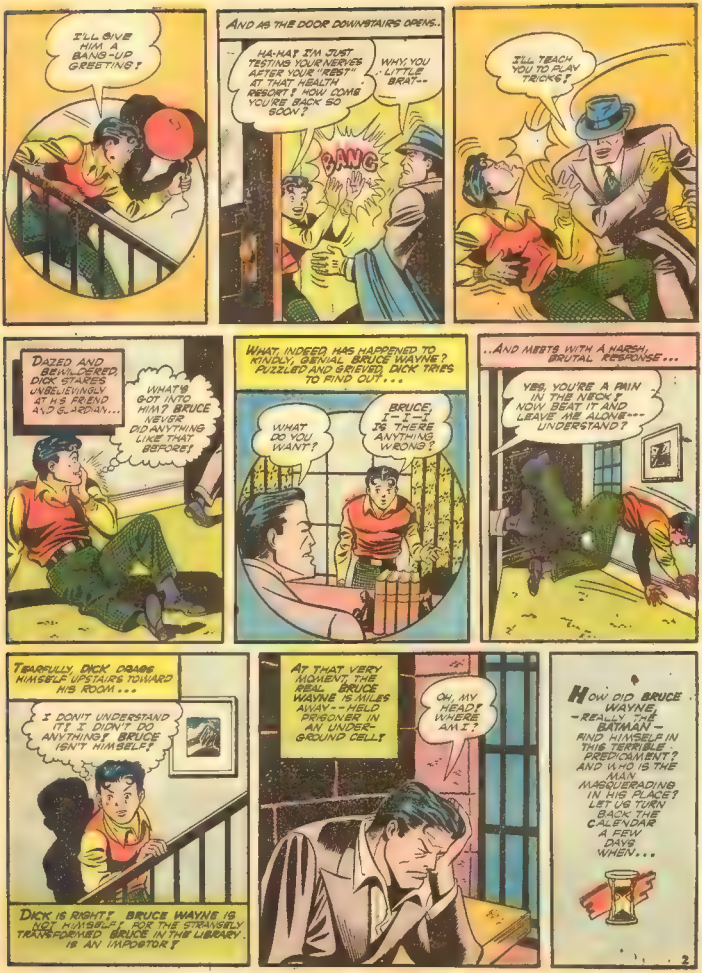
Excited and happy, the company crowded around the young lawyer, showering him with congratulations. He laughed, happily and shyly. They were making too much fuss about him. Shucks, he had only done what was right. *He* liked the theatre, and so did thousands of others like him. The theatre was a right cause, and one worth fighting for.

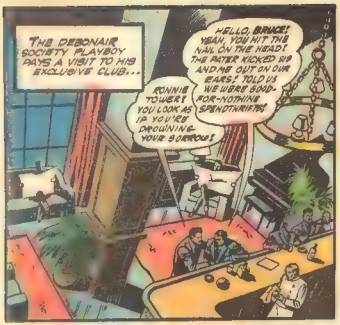
He shook hands and left the council room.

Young Joe Jefferson, watching the tall figure as it bent to pass beneath the low archway, gave voice to his earlier thought again: "What an actor that gentleman would make," he said. "A fine actor."

A councilman, passing, overheard him. He laughed. "An actor?" he said. "I should say not. He's too fine a speechmaker, Abe Lincoln is. We sure need him around here."

BATMAN
WITH
ROBIN
MILLIONAIRE ROW! CELLS INSTEAD OF MANSIONS FOR GOTHAM CITY'S TYCOONS! THAT IS THE FANTASTIC CREATION OF AN OILY SCHEMER TO WHOM MAGNATES ARE MERE PUTTY TO BE SHAPED AND MOULDED AS HE SEES FIT! AND INTO HIS SINISTER SNARE FALLS BRUCE WAYNE GLAMOROUS PLAYBOY--WHOSE NONCHALANT, CAREFREE ATTITUDE CLOAKS THE DYNAMIC PERSONALITY OF THAT DREAD SCOURGE OF EVIL--THE BATMAN! FATE THAT UNPREDICTABLE PRANKSTER, HAS THROWN CRIMES NEMESIS INTO THE HANDS OF A FALSTAFFIAN SCOUNDREL--BUT, WITH THE AID OF YOUNG ROBIN THE BOY WONDER, THE BATMAN WEAVES A WEB OF HIS OWN FOR THE--
"COLLECTOR OF MILLIONAIRES"
AT BRUCE WAYNE'S HOME, ONE DAY...
GEE, THERE'S BRUCE--BACK FROM HIS VACATION!

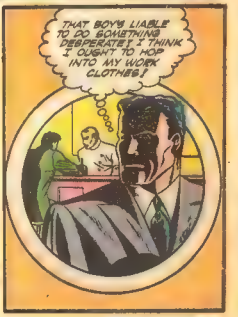

I'LL GIVE HIM A BANG-UP GREETING!
AND AS THE DOOR DOWNSTAIRS OPENS...
HA-HA! I'M JUST TESTING YOUR NERVES AFTER YOUR "REST" AT THAT HEALTH RESORT! HOW COME YOU'RE BACK SO SOON?
WHY, YOU LITTLE BRAT--
BANG
I'LL TEACH YOU TO PLAY TRICKS!
DAZED AND BEWILDERED, DICK STARES UNBELIEVINGLY AT HIS FRIEND AND GUARDIAN...
WHAT'S GOT INTO HIM? BRUCE NEVER DID ANYTHING LIKE THAT BEFORE!
WHAT, INDEED, HAS HAPPENED TO KINDLY, GENIAL BRUCE WAYNE? PUZZLED AND GRIEVED, DICK TRIES TO FIND OUT...
WHAT DO YOU WANT?
BRUCE, I--I--! IS THERE ANYTHING WRONG?
...AND MEETS WITH A HARSH, BRUTAL RESPONSE...
YES, YOU'RE A PAIN IN THE NECK! NOW BEAT IT AND LEAVE ME ALONE--- UNDERSTAND?
TEARFULLY, DICK DRAGS HIMSELF UPSTAIRS TOWARD HIS ROOM...
I DON'T UNDERSTAND IT! I DIDN'T DO ANYTHING! BRUCE ISN'T HIMSELF!
DICK IS RIGHT! BRUCE WAYNE IS NOT HIMSELF! FOR THE STRANGELY TRANSFORMED BRUCE IN THE LIBRARY IS AN IMPOSTOR!
AT THAT VERY MOMENT, THE REAL BRUCE WAYNE IS MILES AWAY--HELD PRISONER IN AN UNDERGROUND CELL!
OH, MY HEAD! WHERE AM I?
HOW DID BRUCE WAYNE--REALLY THE BATMAN--FIND HIMSELF IN THIS TERRIBLE PREDICAMENT? AND WHO IS THE MAN MASQUERADING IN HIS PLACE? LET US TURN BACK THE CALENDAR A FEW DAYS WHEN...
2

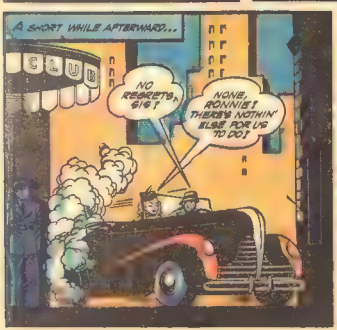

THE DEBONAIR GOODBYE PLAYBOY PAYS A VISIT TO HIS EXCLUSIVE CLUB...
HELLO, BRUCE! YEAH, YOU HIT THE NAIL ON THE HEAD! THE PAINTER KICKED RIB AND HE OUT ON OUR EARS! TOLD US WE WERE AND-FOR-NOTHING SPENDTHRIFTS!
RONNIE TOWERS! YOU LOOK AS IF YOU'RE DROWNING YOUR SORROW!

YOUR FATHER DID THAT? HOW'D-- WHAT HAPPENED?
HANGED HIS KNOWN BEST ACTING QUEER EVER SINCE HE CAME BACK FROM ALI'S HEALTH RESORT A FEW DAYS AGO!

SAY, THAT'S TOUGH! ER-- I'LL BE GLAD TO LEND YOU SOME MONEY, OLD CHAP...
NO, THANKS, BRUCE! IT'D GIVE US, BUT CAROL AND I HAVE DECIDED NOT TO SPONGE ON ANYBODY! IT WOULD ONLY PROLONG THE AGONY!

WELL, WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO? LOOK FOR A JOB, OF COURSE?
JOB? YOU'RE A FINE ONE TO TALK ABOUT A JOB, BRUCE. WHAT COULD YOU DO--OR I? NO, CAROL AND I ARE SUNK!


THAT BOY'S LIABLE TO DO SOMETHING DESPERATE! I THINK I OUGHT TO HOP INTO MY WORK CLOTHES!


A SHORT WHILE AFTERWARD...
CLUB
NO REGRETS, SIS?
NONE, RONNIE! THERE'S NOTHIN' ELSE FOR US TO DO!

UNKNOWN TO THEM, A STREAMLINED CAR STREAKS IN PURSUIT, A MYSTERIOUS MANTLED FIGURE AT THE WHEEL...
HE'S HEADING FOR THE CLIFF ROAD, AND HIS SISTERS WITH HIM! I'VE GOT TO STOP THEM!
FOR BRUCE WAYNE, A WEALTHY MAN-ABOUT-TOWN, HAS DONNED THE EERIE GARB OF-- THE BATMAN!

A SUPER-CHARGED MOTOR ROARS A SONG OF SPEED AS THE BATMOBILE CATAPULTS FORWARD . . .
OKAY, BIG, HERE WE GO! A TWIST OF THE WHEEL.. HEY YOU, GET BACK IN LINE!
I LIKE IT HERE!
STEEL NERVES AND AN IRON GRIP KEEP THE BATMOBILE RIDING HARD ON THE SUICIDAL YOUNGSTERS!
MAKE UP YOUR MIND-- GO AHEAD OR GET BEHIND!
EYES FRONT!
THE BREAKNECK CHASE ENDS AT THE BOTTOM OF THE TORTUOUS ROAD!
WHAT'S THE IDEA--
I'LL TELL YOU IN A MOMENT, YOU YOUNG FOOL! STOP THE CAR!
SAY, THAT OUTFIT-- AREN'T YOU THE BATMAN?
YES, AND NOW DO YOU MIND TELLING ME WHY YOU WERE TRYING TO KILL YOURSELVES?
UNDER THE SPELL OF THE BATMAN'S FIRM BUT KINDLY ATTITUDE, YOUNG RONNIE TOWER TELLS H.S RESCUER A STORY HE ALREADY KNOWS...
...AND SO THERE WAS NOTHING LEFT FOR US TO DO!
WHY, YOU OUGHT TO BE ASHAMED OF YOURSELVES! TWO HEALTHY YOUNG PEOPLE QUITTING LIFE WITHOUT A FIGHT! WHY DON'T YOU TRY TO EARN YOUR OWN LIVING?
EASIER SAID THAN DONE! BUT WHAT CAN I DO BESIDES PLAY GOLF, TENNIS AND TOOT A SAXOPHONE?
SAXOPHONE! THAT'S IT! YOU CAN GET A JOB IN A BAND! LISTEN, GO TO THE KITTY CLUB--- THE OWNER OWES ME SOME FAVORS! TELL HIM THE BATMAN SENT YOU!
AND YOU, MISS TOWER! WHY, YOU CAN GET A POSITION EASILY IN A DRESS SHOP! I KNOW JUST THE PLACE--MADAME SONYA'S!
THANKS, BATMAN! YOU SAVED OUR LIVES!
YES, WE WERE SILLY COWARDS!
4

THE GALLANT DARK KNIGHT SPEEDS AWAY, EYES NARROWED IN THOUGHT..
IT'S NOT LIKE JUDGE TOWER TO THROW HIS SON AND DAUGHTER OUT OF HIS HOME! SOMETHING MUST HAVE HAPPENED TO HIM AT ALI'S HEALTH RESORT! BRUCE M'LAD, I THINK YOU'RE GOING ON A VACATION!
AND NOW LET US RETURN TO BRUCE IN HIS CELL...
MY HEAD'S CLEARING... I REMEMBER I CAME TO THE RESORT AND ALI GAVE ME A DRINK...WHEW! HE MUST HAVE DRUGGED ME!
SUDDENLY, THE LIGHTS IN THE CORRIDOR CLICK ON....
THERE'S THAT FAT SCOUNDREL, ALI, NOW--AND THAT'S REGINALD VAN ASTOR!
LOCK UP MR. VAN ASTOR WITH HIS FRIENDS IN MILLIONAIRE ROW! THEY DON'T SEEM HAPPY! MAYBE COMPANY WILL CHEER THEM UP!
MILLIONAIRE ROW! BRUCE STARES ACROSS AT THE STRANGE SIGHT THAT GREETS HIS EYES...
YOU ARE A HOBBY GENTLEMEN! I COLLECT MILLIONAIRES! AND DUPLICATE THEM, TOO WITH A LITTLE EXPERT MAKE-UP AND VOICE RECORDINGS!
NOW I SEE WHAT ALI IS UP TO! HE MUST HAVE SELECTED ACTORS TO TAKE OUR PLACES! THERE'S THE REAL JUDGE TOWER-- HE NEVER LEFT THIS PLACE! AND HOWARD PRESCOTT AND MILES ROCKLEY!
OF COURSE, MY MEN CAN'T SIGN YOUR NAMES, OR THEY'D LEAVE YOU WITHOUT A PENNY! BUT THEY'LL BE ABLE TO ASSUME YOUR IDENTITIES LONG ENOUGH TO REAP A PROFIT!
THE WILY BEHEMOTH TAKES INVENTORY OF HIS STOCK...
FINE SPECIMENS YOU ARE! JUDGE TOWER, STRICT WITH CRIMINALS, BUT SO LAX WITH YOUR OWN CHILDREN THAT THEY ARE SPOILED WASTRELS!
HARUMPH!
AND MR. HOWARD PRESCOTT! PINCH-PENNY PRESCOTT, THEY CALL YOU-- IT WOULD KILL YOU TO GIVE AWAY ANY MONEY!
WHY, YOU--
5

MILES ROCKLEY, THE HARD-HEADED BANKER WHO DEMANDS SUPER-GILT-EDGED SECURITY FOR A LOAN! NEVER GIVE A POOR FELLOW A BREAK, THAT'S YOUR MOTTO!
MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS!
REGINALD VAN ASTOR, THE COLLECTOR OF MASTERPIECES-- WHICH HE KEEPS TO HIMSELF!
THEY'RE MINE, AREN'T THEY, YOU RUFFIAN!
AND FINALLY, BRUCE WAYNE, SOCIETY'S PLAYBOY-- OF NO USE TO ANYBODY-- BUT ALI! I'LL PUT YOU TO WORK FOR ME!
NO, THANKS, I DON'T LIKE A BIG FAT RAT FOR MY BOSS!
FOOL! I HAVE A BETTER USE FOR THEM LATER! FIRST THOUGH, I MUST COLLECT FROM THEIR DOUBLES!
I'VE GOT TO WARN DICK! HE MAY REVEAL THE BATMAN'S IDENTITY TO MY DOUBLE!
WHY DON'T WE KILL THEM MASTER?
MEANWHILE... WHAT IS HAPPENING TO DICK GRAYSON!
HE CAN'T ACT THAT WAY TO ME! MAYBE-- HE'D BE DIFFERENT IF I REMINDED HIM WHAT WE'VE BEEN THROUGH TOGETHER!
A SWIFT TRANSFORMATION....AND ROBIN, THE BOY WONDER RACES DOWNSTAIRS...
HELLO, THIS IS BRUCE WAYNE! YES YES, I WANT TO APPEAR ON THAT MUSEUM COMMITTEE!
WONDER WHAT BRUCE IS UP TO? I'LL SOON FIND OUT! MAYBE HE'LL TALK WHEN HE SEES ME IN THIS OUTFIT!
BUT A STARTLING INTERRUPTION HALTS ROBIN -- THE WARNING BUZZ OF HIS PORTABLE WIRELESS..
AM I GOING CRAZY! ONLY BRUCE COULD BE CALLING ME ON MY WIRELESS SET-- AND HE'S INSIDE ON THE PHONE! UNLESS--UNLESS THE MAN IN THERE ISN'T REALLY BRUCE! YES, THAT'S IT!
BZ-Z-Z
BZ-Z-Z
ROBIN - ROBIN -
BRUCE, WHAT'S UP! I ALMOST SPILLED THE BEANS TO YOUR DOUBLE!
THANK GOODNESS I WAS IN TIME! LISTEN, HERE'S WHAT I WANT YOU TO DO...
6

SOON AFTERWARD A SMALL TRUCK-CAR FIGURE APPEARS BEHIND A TREE AT THE ENTRANCE TO A CERTAIN GRANT...
HERE'S MY CHANCE! I'LL HIDE IN THAT TRUCK!
A SHORT TIME LATER..
JUST PUT THEM DOWNSTAIRS IN THE BASEMENT!
AS THE GUARDS AND TRUCK MEN DEPART, ROBIN STEPS OUT OF ONE OF THE BOXES!
LUCKY THEY DON'T FIND THOSE CANS I'VE HIDED INTO A CORNER OF THE TRUCK!
CANNED GOODS
AS SILENTLY AS AN INDIAN SCOUT THE BATMAN'S YOUNG AIDE PROWLS THE BASEMENT CORRIDOR!
AAAH--THERE'S THE GUARD! NO BIG FOR ME--BUT THIS QUARTER, I'LL PUT IN THE TRUNK!
A SWIFT LEAP FORWARD AND...
A QUARTER.. AAAGH!
ALL IS NOT SILVER THAT GLITTERS!
WITH THE KEYS FROM THE UNCONSCIOUS GUARD, THE BOY WONDER GLIDES TOWARD THE MILLIONAIRE'S ROOM!
LAST CELL TO LEFT BRUCE SAID! THIS MUST BE IT!
SEE YOU SURE YOU'RE YOU? I'VE BEEN SEEING DOUBLE LATELY!
GOOD BOY ROBIN! AND THANKS FOR BRINGING MY COSTUME!
7

MOMENTS LATER, AND IT IS A MASKED BATMAN WHO FLITS FROM BRUCE WAYNE'S CELL...
AL HAS GONE TO TOWN TO CLEAN UP! WELL HAVE TO STAY HERE AND ROUNDUP THOSE IMPOSTORS!
CHECK! THEN LATER WE CAN COME BACK AND FREE THESE PRISONERS INCLUDING BRUCE WAYNE!
IN THE RACING BATMOBILE, THE DYNAMIC DUO PLOT A COURSE OF ACTION...
WE WON'T HAVE TIME TO GO AFTER THOSE FELLOWS TOGETHER! WE'LL HAVE TO DIVIDE OUR WORK!
WORK IS WHAT MY HANDS ARE ITCHING FOR!
IN A MIDTOWN COURT-ROOM, WHERE A FALSE "JUDGE TOWER" PRESIDES, JUSTICE GOES ON A SPREE!
I CAUGHT THESE CROOKS STEALING JEWELRY, YOUR HONOR!
CHARGES DISMISSED! MEN SEEM HONEST!
THOSE ROCKS BELONG TO US!
ALI'S MEN DON'T HAVE TO WORRY IF THEY ARE BROUGHT BEFORE HIM! WELL CLEAN UP PLENTY!
BUT A LITHE, CLOAKED FIGURE SWOOPS INTO THE ROOM...
OBJECTION, YOUR HONOR!
WHAT--WHAT DOES THIS MEAN? OFFICER! ARREST THIS MAN!
NO, OFFICER! THESE MEN WILL BE---
--WITNESSES TO--
--THIS MASQUERADER'S REAL IDENTITY! TAKE 'EM AWAY, OFFICER!
WITH PLEASURE, BATMAN! I THOUGHT THIS GUY WAS ACTING PHONEY!

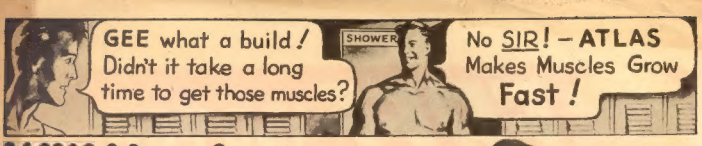
MEANWHILE, ON THE TERRACE OF HOWARD PRESCOTT'S PENTHOUSE APARTMENT...
SO, GENTLEMEN, I'VE ASKED YOU EACH TO BRING AS MUCH CASH AS YOU CAN SPARE FOR THE U.S.O.! I'LL MATCH EACH DONATION WITH AN EQUAL AMOUNT!
HERE'S $10,000 I'M CONTRIBUTING!
IMAGINE PINCH-PENNY PRESCOTT GIVING MONEY AWAY!
I'M IN FOR $25,000!
THANK YOU, GENTLEMEN! I HAVE $100,000 HERE. I WILL SEND TWICE THAT AMOUNT TO THE U.S.O.!
WON'T ALI FEEL GOOD WHEN I MEET HIM LATER!
LIKE A SHOT OUT OF A CANNON, A HUMAN PROJECTILE BURSTS INTO THEIR MIDST...
YOU WOULDN'T LIE, WOULD YOU, MR. PRESCOTT?"
WATCH OUT-- SOME CRAZY KID!
THE ENRAGED IMPOSTOR SUDDENLY TWISTS AROUND AND...
I'LL TAKE CARE OF YOU!
SAY, PRESCOTT, WHAT'RE YOU DOING?
ROBIN'S BODY SHOOTS OUT...
...AND BOOMERANGS BACK, FEET-FIRST...
IS THIS WHAT YOU MEANT?
AAAG-G
HE'S A PHONEY! BETTER CALL THE POLICE! THE REAL MR. PRESCOTT WILL RETURN HOME SOON!
I KNEW IT! I KNEW IT! THE DAY WILL NEVER COME WHEN PINCH-PENNY GIVES MONEY AWAY!
9

THE BATMAN HAS SPED TO HIS SECOND ASSIGNMENT... REGINALD VAN ASTOR'S HOME...
ANY FURTHER BIDDING? FORTY THOUSAND DOLLARS I'M OFFERED FOR THIS REMBRANDT! FORTY THOUSAND.. GOING.. GO.NG...
GONE!
BATMAN! HE'S RUINED A MASTERPIECE!
WAIT! THE GENUINE PAINTINGS ARE IN THE NEXT ROOM! THIS ONE WAS ONLY A CLEVER FAKE!
FAKE? WHY--
BATMAN IS RIGHT! THAT FELLOW IS AN IMPOSTOR!
AND SO IS "REGINALD VAN ASTOR!"
THE WHIRL-WIND ROUND UP CONTINUES WITH BANKER "MILES ROCKLEY".
YOU HEARD ME! THIS GOLD WATCH IS GOOD ENOUGH SECURITY FOR A LOAN OF $50,000! GIVE MR. JONES HIS MONEY!
YES, SIR!
AND JONES WILL TURN IT OVER TO AL!? I'M SOME BANKER!
BUT THE BOY WONDER HAS SOMETHING TO SAY...
NO, SIR!
THIS OUGHT TO DISGUISE YOU EVEN BETTER!
AND THIS WILL MAKE YOU REMEMBER WHO YOU REALLY ARE, WHEN THE POLICE QUESTION YOU!

AND AT THE CITY MUSEUM--STILL ANOTHER OF ALI'S COUPS IS IN PROGRESS...
GLADLY! GLADLY!
AND NOW OUR EXHIBITION OF THE FAMOUS READE RUBY IS OVER, MR. WAYNE, AS A MEMBER OF OUR COMMITTEE, WILL YOU PLACE IT IN SAFE CUSTODY?
WAIT UNTIL ALI GETS A LOOK AT THIS!
A STERN VOICE CUTS THROUGH THE MUSTY HALL...
WAIT!
THAT MAN ISN'T BRUCE WAYNE!
BATMAN!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN? OF COURSE I'M BRUCE WAYNE! GUARDS, THIS FELLOW IS TRYING TO STEAL THE RUBY! HOW DO WE KNOW HE'S THE BATMAN?
YEAH, MAYBE HE'S A FAKE WHO'S PUT ON A CAPE AND HOOD! WHAT'S THE IDEA OF ACCUSING MR. WAYNE OF BEING A PHONEY?
A FLASHING MOVEMENT--AND A DIAMOND-STUDDED, BAT-SHAPED EMBLEM GLEAMS IN THE CRIME-FIGHTER'S CUPPED PALM...
I KNOW ANYBODY ELSE WHO HAS ONE OF THESE?
GOSH, I'M SORRY, BATMAN! BUT MR. WAYNE, --HE'S--
I'LL GET YOU YET, YOU MEDDLER!
DEFTLY THE BATMAN SNARES THE CASE IN HIS ARMS...
THANKS! THAT PREVENTS THE RUBY FROM LEAVING--
AND THIS WILL PREVENT YOU!
IT'S ALMOST LIKE HITTING MYSELF!
WHERE'S ALI? WHERE WERE YOU TO MEET HIM?
DON'T HIT ME--- I'LL TALK! ALI WENT BACK TO THE RESORT TO REMOVE HIS PRISONERS! HIS PLANS DIDN'T WORK OUT, BUT HE CAN STILL HOLD THE MILLIONAIRES FOR RANSOM!

ROBIN REJOINS THE BATMAN -- AND AT ALI'S HEALTH RESORT, THE DYNAMIC TEAM EXPLODES INTO ACTION . . .
IT'S THE BATMAN!
THANKS FOR THE INTRODUCTION!
REDUCING ROOM
HA! I WILL MYSELF TEAR YOU APART, YOU LITTLE BRAT!
YOU SOUND GOOD, ALI---
--BUT ACTIONS SPEAK LOUDER THAN WORDS, MY RAT FRIEND!
SAY "AH"!
AH-H-H
A CONCERTED RUSH THREATENS THE BATMAN...
WE'LL CARVE YOU UP!
STEAM ROOM
WELL, WELL, THESE FELLOWS MEAN BUSINESS!
BUT THE NIMBLE-WITTED CRUSADER-FIGHTER NEATLY TURNS THE TABLES!
SO I'LL PUT THE HEAT ON THEM!
WORK UP A SWEAT, BOYS!
HEY, THE BIG CHEESE IS RUNNING OUT ON US!

WHAT'S THE MATTER, ALI? DON'T YOU LIKE OUR COMPANY?
HOW ABOUT REDUCING HIM ON THE HOUSE?
THE CORPULENT OWNER OF THE HEALTH RESORT IS PUT THROUGH HIS OWN MILL...
WELL! NOW YOU'RE CUT DOWN TO YOUR PROPER SIZE, MR. MASTER-MIND!
SURE--- TO FIT A PRISON UNIFORM!
LATER, AFTER THE MILLIONAIRE PRISONERS HAVE BEEN RELEASED...
THE BATMAN SAVED OUR LIVES AND REPUTATIONS! I'VE BEEN THINKING--- I'M GOING TO DONATE THE $100,000 PROMISED BY MY DOUBLE TO THE U.S.O.!
AND I'M GOING TO BE MORE LENIENT WHEN I LEND MONEY TO PEOPLE!
AND I'M GIVING MY ART COLLECTION TO A MUSEUM! EVERYBODY CAN LOOK AT THEM, THEN!
AT JUDGE TOWER'S HOME, A FAMILY REUNION TAKES PLACE...
THANKS, DAD-- WE'RE GLAD IT WAS ALL A MISTAKE, BUT WE THINK WE'LL STICK TO OUR JOBS!
I'M PROUD OF YOU! AND HEREAFTER I THINK I'LL BE MORE INTERESTED IN YOUR FUTURE!
STILL LATER, AT BRUCE WAYNE'S HOME....
YOU KNOW DICK, ALI DID SOME GOOD, AFTER ALL! THOSE HEIRS HAVE REFORMED!
HOW ABOUT YOU, BRUCE? DIDN'T ALI SAY YOU WEREN'T OF USE TO ANYBODY?
YES, BUT YOU'LL HAVE TO ASK THE BATMAN ABOUT THAT!
THE END



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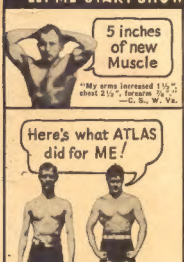

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